Corrupt Activities Law. (REPORTED-AMENDED (No testimony); 3rd Hearing-Possible amendments & vote)

The bill was <u>amended</u> by Rep. Rezabek to clarify that someone in possession of five or more access devices faces up to a third-degree felony charge.

VETERAN TREATMENT (<u>Butler, J., Perales, R.</u>) To permit courts to create veterans treatment courts and to allow courts to divert certain criminal defendants to participate in veterans treatment court. (**CONTINUED**; 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Montgomery County Common Pleas Court Judge Dennis Adkins said the need for the legislation has drastically increased since Sept. 11, 2001.

During the War on Terror, he said, some veterans have been deployed overseas as many as nine times.

"Some are changed more than others. Some suffer from serious problems," Judge Adkins said.

Judge Adkins created a veterans' treatment court in 2013. He said it has proven to be successful with a lower recidivism rate than other specialized dockets.

"The numbers speak for themselves. We have been very successful," he said.

HB 439

BAIL DETERMINATIONS (<u>Dever, J., Ginter, T.</u>) To require courts to use the results of a validated risk assessment tool in bail determinations; to allow nonmonetary bail to be set; to require courts to collect certain data on bail, pretrial release, and sentencing; and to require the state Criminal Sentencing Commission to create a list of validated risk assessment tools and monitor the policies and procedures of courts in setting bail and utilizing pretrial supervision services. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 2nd Hearing-Proponent & interested party)

HB 455

**DRUG TRAFFICKING** (Wiggam, S.) To provide that in determining the amount of cocaine for trafficking offenses, it also includes a compound, mixture, preparation, or substance containing cocaine, to increase penalties for certain drug trafficking offenses, and to name this act the Drug Trafficking Deterrence Act. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Under the measure, individuals charged with trafficking heroin, fentanyl, cocaine or other Scheduled I or II drugs would be charged with at least a third-degree felony that includes mandatory prison time.

"No longer will drug dealers be able to operate in this state with little fear of the law, and Ohio will draw a clear distinction in criminal penalties between trafficking and simply using illegal drugs," Rep. Scott Wiggam (R-Wooster) said in sponsor testimony.

Rep. Wiggam said that since 2012, Ohio has reduced the incarceration of drug traffickers by 4%, while at the same time, unintentional overdose deaths have increased by 212%.

"We are in a battle for the future of Ohio," he said. "Without deterring drugs from entering and being produced in the state, we are failing those who are currently addicted, and we are jeopardizing our state's future."

Rep. Rezabek questioned the impact the bill would have on the state's already overcrowded prison system, adding he has heard the figure could be as many as 8,000 beds - the equivalent of three maximum security prisons.

Rep. Wiggam disputed the figure, saying the deterrence impact could lead to a much smaller impact.

Rep. Rezabek also questioned whether the bill addresses the definition of trafficking, noting that some users carry scales to ensure that they are not being ripped off when purchasing drugs.

Rep. Wiggam said the bill currently does not address that issue, but he would be open to looking further into the matter.

#### HB 457

**DRUG TREATMENT** (Antani, N.) To require that an offender serving a community control sanction or a parolee who fails a drug test for heroin, fentanyl, or carfentanil be held in jail or admitted to a residential treatment program for up to 30 days. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Rep. Niraj Antani (R-Miamisburg) said the legislation was spurred by Scottie Childers, who failed a drug test during a probation check-in and died of an overdose four hours later. "Scottie's mother, Linda Chambers, was shocked that her son was able to walk out after testing positive. In this case, had Scottie been sent to jail, it would have saved his life," he said in sponsor testimony. "This bill will help protect and save the lives of individuals afflicted with substance abuse."

The bill would require individuals subject to community control or parole sanctions to be immediately sent to jail or a treatment facility if they test positive for heroin, fentanyl or carfentanil.

"I completely agree that those struggling with substance abuse should be treated as addicts who need treatment, and not as criminals. However, in current reality, we simply do not have enough residential treatment facilities for those who need it," he said.

"While we in the General Assembly must address that issue, we also must face where we are today in Ohio and the challenges that we are up against. While we are working on getting more treatment facilities, there has to be somewhere for individuals afflicted with substance abuse to go, and jail is the safest place for them."

Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) questioned why cocaine is not included in the bill.

Rep. Antani said he was trying to narrowly tailor the bill to lessen the impact on county jails. He added that the original charge has to have involved one of the drugs named in the bill.

#### HB 461

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING** (Fedor, T., Galonski, T.) To require a juvenile court to hold a delinquency complaint in abeyance if the court has reason to believe that the act charged might be prostitution related or that the child might be a victim of human trafficking and to provide that the same elements for the offense of trafficking in persons that apply to a victim under the age of sixteen also apply to a victim who is age sixteen or seventeen. (SCHEDULED BUT NOT HEARD; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The bill was pulled from the agenda at the sponsor's request.

Subscriber's Note: For full written testimony, see the <u>committee's website</u> under Jan. 23. Education & Career Readiness

HB 224

**SCHOOL FOODS** (<u>Ingram, C.</u>) To permit districts and schools to re-serve time- and temperature-controlled food items to students if items are unused and returned unopened, undamaged, and in the original packaging. (**CONTINUED**; 2nd Hearing-Proponent & Interested party)

Rachel Tilford, food service director of Little Miami Schools and legislative chairperson for the School Nutrition Association of Ohio, said allowing food-sharing tables can benefit students who are food insecure.

However, the Department of Health currently requires any food remaining on sharing tables at the end of the day to be discarded, even if proper procedures are in place to safely store the food and keep it at proper temperatures.

Having to throw that food away results in about \$3,000 of waste annually in her district of 5,000 students alone, Ms. Tilford said.

"It is difficult to throw perfect good food in a garbage can. Try opening your refrigerator and tossing several dollars' worth of food into the trash," she said. "Staff have expressed concern that if people in our conservative community ever witnesses such waste that our department would be viewed negatively for wasting taxpayers' money and probably wind up as a scandalous media story."

She told Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) that many schools face shortfalls in their food service budgets and use money from the general fund used for educational purposes to provide lunches.

While schools lose lunch profits on calamity days, they typically don't lose product because district food service workers can go to schools and freeze any items that won't keep while school is called off, Ms. Tilford said in response to a question from **Rep. Dan Ramos** (D-Lorain).

Rep. Theresa Gavarone (R-Bowling Green) questioned how schools keep cold items such as milk and yogurt at a safe temperature after they've been served. The witness said students typically don't have the items on their lunch trays for more than 15 minutes and then they're placed in insulated or temperature controlled storage that's monitored by a thermometer.

Jessica Shelly, food service director for Cincinnati Public Schools, also submitted written testimony in support of the bill. She said the school throws out an estimated \$500,000 in products each year that are paid for by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

HB 438

ESC BOARDS (<u>Hambley, S., Kick, D.</u>) To permit the addition of appointed members to educational service center boards and to permit a local school district to sever its territory from one educational service center and annex that territory to an adjacent service center under specified conditions. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Joint sponsor, <u>Rep. Steve Hambley</u> (R-Brunswick) said the bill aims to "increase member schools' participation in ESC governance and return choice to school districts whose hands were tied under previous law changes.

The measure allows the governing board of any single county ESC to add appointed members who represent client school districts of the service center that are not otherwise represented on the board, he said. Multi-county ESCs already have this ability. It also permits a local school district to sever its territory from one ESC and annex that territory to an adjacent ESC under certain conditions, joint sponsor **Rep. Darrell Kick** (R-Loudonville) said.

"Initial indications are that the only affected school districts would be Black River Local School District, and the five school districts in Sandusky County," he said, noting that the provision is permissive.

Responding to questions from the committee, Rep. Hambley said the Ohio Educational Service Center Association is supportive of the bill, which wouldn't allow appointed members to outnumber elected officials on boards.

Currently in the Black River Local School District, residents elect board members to an ESC they don't receive services from, which is what the bill is attempting to remedy, he said.

HB 442

SCHOOL ATHLETICS (<u>Antani, N.</u>) To authorize any student from a country or province outside the United States who attends an elementary or secondary school in Ohio and holds an F-1 visa to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as Ohio residents. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Students who come to America on F-1 visas don't get a complete high school experience because they're currently not allowed to play sports, sponsoring Rep. Niraj Antani (R-Miamisburg) said.

"The Ohio High School Athletic Association and its members - around 85% of which are public high schools, paid for by taxpayers - arbitrarily decided several years ago that some international students, like exchange students who are here for a year on a J-1 visa, may play sports, but others, who may be here for four years on an F-1 visa, may not participate unless they meet specific criteria that are not applicable to the vast majority of students who receive an F-1 visa," he said.

He pointed to a 2015 comment from the OHSSA commissioner, who said that sports teach students life lessons, such as teamwork and commitment.

"Why would we want to deny a segment of students attending high school in Ohio from having these valuable experiences, just because of where they were born and the type of visa they have to legally attend school here?" Rep. Antani asked. "It is not something that our state government should let happen, especially when such rules are made by our public schools."

Rep. Ramos and Rep. Patterson raised concerns about recruiting athletes if the bill were to be approved.

"There has been concern that it's possible that students like this might congregate, some might use the term recruitment, in some particular schools and thus instead of a level playing field...it makes it harder for schools to compete," Rep. Patterson said.

Rep. Antani said it doesn't seem likely that schools would attempt to recruit students and there are OSHAA penalties in place for those that are caught doing so.

He suggested that private schools would only accept individuals who meet certain academic standards, which would make recruiting even more difficult.

By all accounts, students with J-1 visas, who are typically short-term foreign exchange students, aren't currently recruited despite being permitted to play OSHAA sports, Rep. Antani added.

**HCR 11 ■** 

**EDUCATION PLAN** (<u>Gavarone, T.</u>) To approve Ohio's state education plan for implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act. (**CONTINUED** (**No testimony**); 2nd Hearing-All testimony)

## Public Utilities

HB 143

**ELECTRIC COMPANIES** (<u>Sprague, R.</u>) To clarify the definition of "electric distribution company" for kilowatt-hour tax purposes. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

<u>Rep. Robert Sprague</u>'s bill would preserve the previously-granted exemption of selfgenerators from the kilowatt-hour tax when it comes to power distribution, according to the sponsor.

The bill, he argued, is necessary to ensure exemptions spelled out in a 2001 law are properly applied by the Ohio Department of Taxation. That bill (SB3, 123<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly) exempted self-generators from the tax but the sponsor said that in recent years, ODT has begun levying the tax on some entities that should qualify as self-generators.

"This specific issue has to do with the interpretation of language regarding the tax on the distribution of energy over the grid," he said. "Since 'self-generator' is not specifically defined under Ohio's tax code, the Ohio Department of Taxation is treating certain entities that fit under the Ohio Revised Code Section 4928.01 definition of a 'self-generator' as electric distribution companies."

A substitute version of the bill is forthcoming after continued talks with ODT and other parties, Rep. Sprague (R-Findlay) said.

"My hope is we will soon reach a consensus on the language issues, but, due to certain views on the original principle of the exemption, there will still be opposition," Rep. Sprague said. "My intention was and is not to address the principle of whether the exemption is right or wrong; it is to clarify the intentions of Senate Bill 3 from the 123rd General Assembly." The sponsor told Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) that "a lot of resistance" has been aired in interested party meetings over whether justification for the exemptions exists. "We're really not going to address that particular issue of the exemption," he said of the philosophical debate.

HB 247

**UTILITY LAW** (<u>Romanchuk, M.</u>) To require refunds to utility customers who have been improperly charged, to eliminate electric security plans and require all electric standard service offers to be delivered through market-rate offers, and to strengthen corporate separation requirements. (**CONTINUED**; 6th Hearing-All testimony)

Proponents continued pressing House lawmakers to support a bill to ban electric security plans over the objections of utility companies.

Tuesday marked the sixth hearing of the bill from Rep. Mark Romanchuk (R-Mansfield) which has been praised by consumer advocates as a way to bypass above-market riders levied on customers. But utilities remain staunchly opposed, arguing previously that MROs are less flexible and reduce competition. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 12, 2017) Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston reiterated his support for the bill, echoing remarks he's made before in front of the committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 14, 2017)

"In short, you would be solving a lot of problems and doing a lot of good for Ohioans by reforming the 2008 law to eliminate electric security plans," Mr. Weston argued. Ned Hill, an Ohio State University economist, agreed, criticizing the deal-making process in which utilities secure interested party support for ESPs through settlement agreement "carve outs."

"In a market-based economy markets should operate for the benefit of consumers, not for the benefit of companies," he said. "House Bill 247 will ensure that this remains true for electricity customers, and not just the few that are favored in special interest carve-outs in ESPs."

Barry Matchett, director of external affairs for NRG Energy, also voiced support for the bill, which he said contains "worthy policy goals" for Ohio consumers and large energy users. "Let me also be clear that this is a compromise bill from the start," Mr. Matchett said. "I will admit there were many proposed items that my own company would have liked to have seen included in this legislation. But what you have before you is a solid base of reforms to protect and preserve the robust and developing energy market here in Ohio primarily to the benefit of customers."

Micah Derry, state director for Americans for Prosperity-Ohio, submitted written interested party testimony stating the legislation is a "natural step on the heels" of a House-passed bill to rework the renewable energy standards (HB 114).

"As it relates to HB247, we think the steps taken in the legislation to eliminate the Electricity Security Plans (ESP) are an encouraging provision, as this would largely preclude the ability of utilities to charge above-market rates to consumers," Mr. Derry wrote.

"It would also open the way for more pro-consumer competitive outcomes through the default adoption of the Market-Rate Offer (MRO) ratemaking mechanism, which is intrinsically competitive since it sets rates through a competitive bidding process," he continued.

TELEPHONE REGULATION (<u>Hill, B.</u>) To revise state regulation of telephone companies. (**CONTINUED** (See separate story); 2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the committee's website under Jan. 23.

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# Senate Activity for Tuesday, January 23, 2018

### COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Health, Human Services & Medicaid

#### HB 145

CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT (<u>Huffman, S., Sprague, R.</u>) To provide for the establishment of a confidential program for the treatment of certain impaired practitioners and to declare an emergency. (**REPORTED-AMENDED**; 4th Hearing -All testimony-Possible vote)

The committee voted unanimously to report the bill after accepting two amendments. The first amendment, offered by Chairman <u>Sen. Dave Burke</u> (R-Marysville), deals with the potential of a move of Medicaid long-term services and supports into managed care. That proposal was hotly debated in the budget, with the General Assembly putting a limit on the administration's plan to implement the move, and <u>Gov. John Kasich</u> vetoing the language. The issue was resolved when the Kasich administration announced it would not begin the move.

The amendment states that the General Assembly would have the final say in whether Medicaid can move long-term care services to managed care, said <u>Sen. Scott Oelslager</u> (R-N. Canton).

The other amendment includes language considered but tabled in December dealing with the move of the regulation of dieticians and respiratory care providers to the State Medical Board. (See <u>Gongwer Ohio Report, December 5, 2017</u>)

### HB 286...

PALLIATIVE CARE (<u>LaTourette, S.</u>) To create the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council, to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program, and to require health care facilities to identify patients and residents who could benefit from palliative care. (CONTINUED-AMENDED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor & Possible amendments)

The committee accepted an amendment offered by Sen. Burke that adds exercise physiologists to list of experts that can be appointed to the interdisciplinary council, clarifies what non-hospice palliative care candidates may receive the service from a hospice facility, and makes technical corrections.

Sponsor Rep. Sarah LaTourette (R-Chagrin Falls) said the bill would create an interdisciplinary council and education program to raise awareness about palliative care. Palliative care, in which a patient's quality of life is improved by reducing symptoms, pain and stress by giving them more control, is appropriate at any point in an illness, not just at the end of life.

"Palliative care is appropriate at any age and at any stage of a serious illness, but when palliative care is mentioned many people do instantly think of 'hospice care' and the

conversation stops," she said. "Because of this, palliative care is drastically and disappointingly underutilized in our state."

The council would include members from fields that work closely with palliative care recipients, and would serve as an advisory council to the Department of Health," Rep. LaTourette said. "The bill also creates an education program to inform patients and medical providers about the care."

<u>Sen. Bill Beagle</u> (R-Tipp City) asked what the council's main objective would be. The sponsor said education is important, because if people don't know about palliative care, they won't take advantage of it. The council would also be required to submit annual reports to the General Assembly.

EBT CARDS (Schaffer, T.) To establish requirements for electronic benefit transfer cards issued under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 110 HEALTH CARE IDENTIFICATION (<u>Tavares, C.</u>) To require a health care

professional to wear identification when providing care or treatment in the

presence of a patient. (CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

The bill would require certain health care professionals to wear an identification card, badge or similar device, including a photograph, when providing care, sponsor <u>Sen. Charleta B. Tavares</u> (D-Columbus) said. The badge would be required to include the person's licensure status and staff position.

"Without this legislation it is all too easy for patients to confuse who is and is not a licensed health care professional," she said. "It is also very easy for unlicensed or unqualified individuals to administer care to unaware patients. The misrepresentation of the level of training held by health care professionals is dangerous and can result in the loss of a loved one's life."

The sponsor detailed the story of a patient in South Carolina who ultimately died from complications from a pain reliever after surgery and whose mother repeatedly asked for a veteran physician at the hospital to examine him, but was only met by residents.

"It is vital that health care professionals are required to wear identification of who they are and what their level of training is in order to insure the utmost level of transparency between patients and health professionals," she said.

<u>Sen. Peggy Lehner</u> (R-Kettering) asked the sponsor if she has checked with hospitals to see if it is already in practice.

Sen. Tavares said she didn't know how common of a practice it is, particularly in smaller hospital systems and practices.

<u>Sen. Edna Brown</u> (D-Toledo) said many people wear badges backwards, and suggested that the requirement be that the name and status be visible.

That's the intent of the bill, Sen. Tavares said, but it could be made explicit in the bill.

SB 192 AWARENESS WEEK (<u>Tavares, C.</u>) To designate the last week of September as "Diaper Need Awareness Week." (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sen. Tavares said her bill would designate the final week of September as Diaper Need Awareness Week, focusing on the need by low-income families of diapers and to rally support for diaper bank programs.

"Children in low-income families are at the greatest risk of suffering the effects of diaper need because many families cannot afford diapers," she said. "Current public support programs help some, but young children have additional needs necessary to build a strong foundation for healthy growth. More awareness needs to be brought to such a critical but oftentimes overlooked necessity for Ohio families."

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families is the only federal program that can cover diapers, and families are often forced to choose between diapers and other services TANF covers, such as heat, electric, rent, clothing and transportation, Sen. Tavares said.

"This bill is simply meant to bring attention to this important need and to encourage those of us with a little extra to donate to the Diaper Banks in our communities or to start them," she said.

#### Insurance & Financial Institutions

HPRS RETIREMENT (Carfagna, R., Ramos, D.) To revise the law governing the State Highway Patrol Retirement System. (CONTINUED; 2nd Hearing-All testimony)

Mark Atkeson, executive director of the Ohio Highway Patrol Retirement System, said the bill would help the pension fund ensure continued solvency.

The bill would return the minimum retirement age to 52 for new hires after Jan. 1, 2020, calculate pension benefits for off-duty disabilities based on a minimum 12-year service benefit instead of 20 years, and eliminate the automatic 50% unfunded survivor benefit, creating a set amount of \$900, increasing annually as the board determines.

The measure would also provide no survivor benefits for those who marry after retirement. "These changes reduce the amortization period of our unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities by several years, and when these changes are fully realized, they will have a compounding cumulative effect on reducing our unfunded liabilities," he said. "In addition, these are considered best practices and are consistent with other similar systems."

Robert Booker, president of the Ohio Highway Patrol Retirees' Association, said the changes are needed to ensure the system's long-term health.

"Like with other pension systems, our system continues to face actuarial assumption changes that have not been seen before," he said. "Probably, the most significant change was the reduction of the investment assumed rate of return. These assumption changes increase the unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities of a pension system. The legislative changes the HPRS board has approved are necessary and will decrease the amortization period of the system's unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities by several years, thus improving its solvency."

In written testimony, HPRS Board member Matt Them voiced support for the proposal. "I realize no one wants to see any change in benefits, myself included, but this legislation is in the best interest of the retirement system and its long-term solvency," he said. "Thus, in the long-run, a solvent and well-funded system will benefit all of us individually."

Chairman <u>Sen. Jay Hottinger</u> (R-Newark) said he hopes to vote the bill out of the committee next week.

BB 227

HEALTH PLAN CLAIMS (Huffman, M.) To require health plan issuers to release certain claim information to group plan policyholders. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

Government Oversight & Reform

SJR 5 CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING (<u>Huffman, M.</u>) To establish a process for congressional redistricting. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 1st Hearing-All testimony)

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# Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, January 24

# Legislative Committees

House Health (Committee Record) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-8114), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

NURSE ANESTHETISTS (Gonzales, A.) Regarding the practice of certified registered nurse anesthetists. (3rd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS (Ginter, T.) To modify the existing tax exemption for veterans organizations' property to include property of certain veterans organizations exempt from federal taxation under section 501C(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and to exclude property that is not used primarily for meetings, administration, and the provision of programs and services to past and present members of the United States armed forces. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

OHIO RESIDENCY (<u>Scherer, G.</u>) To modify the test for determining an individual's state of residence for income tax purposes. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

TAX HOLIDAY (Bacon, K.) To provide for a permanent three-day sales tax "holiday" each August during which sales of clothing and school supplies are exempt from sales and use tax. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Government Oversight & Reform (Committee Record) (Chr. Coley, B., 466-8072), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

SJR 5 CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING (<u>Huffman, M.</u>) To establish a process for congressional redistricting. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

House Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Brinkman, T., 644-6886), Rm. 116, 10 a.m.

- Presentation by Ohio State Highway Patrol Lt. Steven M. Click on the Ohio ASSIST (Aiding Safety Services with Incident Survival Techniques) Program
- WORKERS' COMPENSATION (Henne, M.) To allow groups of employers to be granted status as a self-insuring employer for purposes of the Workers' Compensation Law. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 416 HEALTH SERVICE PRICES (<u>Huffman, S.</u>) Regarding the provision of cost estimates for scheduled health care services and health care services requiring insurer preauthorization. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Transportation & Public Safety (Committee Record) (Chr. Green, D., 644-6034), Rm. 017, 10 a.m.

DRIVER'S LICENSES (Scherer, G., Sheehy, M.) To require a person to HB 293 hold a temporary instruction permit for one year before obtaining a probationary driver's license and to alter the time periods during which the holder of a temporary instruction permit or probationary driver's license is prohibited from operating a motor vehicle without being accompanied by a parent or guardian. (3rd Hearing-Proponent & opponent-Possible substitute) HB 350 **ROAD NAMING** (Craig, H.) To designate a portion of State Route 317 in Franklin County as the "Patrolman Dane L. Rowe Memorial Highway." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote) HB 421 VEHICLE TITLES (Patterson, J., Becker, J.) To provide that when a certificate of title is issued for a motor vehicle, the owner may request that the certificate indicate that the motor vehicle is a replica vehicle. (1st Hearing-Sponsor) HCR 20 **VEHICLE CRASHES (Schaffer, T.)** To urge Congress to encourage the Administrator of the FMCSA to change the crash indicator BASIC regulation standards to consider only crashes in which the driver was at fault for the crash. (1st Hearing-Sponsor) BRIDGE NAMING (Holmes, G.) To designate the bridge spanning Squaw HB 400 Creek, that is part of State Route 169 in Trumbull County, as the "World War I and World War II Veterans Memorial Bridge." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote) BRIDGE NAMING (Holmes, G.) To designate the bridge spanning Squaw HB 401 Creek, that is part of United States Route 422 in Girard, as the "Purple Heart

Veterans Memorial Bridge." (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 388

LICENSE PLATE (Sykes, E., Roegner, K.) To create the "Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens" license plate. (1st Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

House Higher Education & Workforce Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Duffey, M., 644-6030), Rm. 115, 11 a.m.

<u>HB 58</u> CURSIVE HANDWRITING (<u>Brenner, A., Slaby, M.</u>) To require instruction in cursive handwriting. (6th Hearing-Sponsor)

SPONSOR RATINGS (Rogers, J., Patterson, J.) To require the Department of Education to attribute any community school sponsor ratings an entity received during its relationship with a state university board of trustees to that entity even if it no longer has a relationship with the university. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3506), Rm. 119, 12:15 p.m.

House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

House Civil Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 121, 2:30 p.m.

HB 407 ESTATE LAW (Dever, J., Seitz, B.) To abolish the estate by dower. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

POWER OF ATTORNEY (Rogers, J., Seitz, B.) Relative to the acceptance of an acknowledged power of attorney. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security (Committee Record) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124), Rm. 116, 2:30 p.m. or after session

ARMED FORCES (<u>Dever, J.</u>) To urge the President and Congress of the United States, and the Secretary of Defense, to authorize the recruitment of individuals with disabilities for service in the Armed Forces of the United States. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

LICENSE PLATES (<u>Sweeney, M., Perales, R.</u>) To create the "Army Distinguished Service Cross," the "Navy Cross," the "Air Force Cross," and the "Coast Guard Cross" license plates. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 313, 2:30 p.m. or after session

- 2nd Hearing-Proponent testimony on bill from Rep. Schuring on redistricting
- HB 87 COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Roegner, K.) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- WIRELESS SERVICES (Smith, R., LaTourette, S.) To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.) To modify terms describing payments made under the Unemployment Compensation Law, to increase the amount of wages subject to unemployment compensation premiums, to require qualifying employees to make payments to the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund, to allow the Director of Job and Family Services to adjust maximum weekly benefit amounts, to reduce the maximum number of benefit weeks, and to make other changes to the Unemployment Compensation Law. (10th Hearing-All testimony)
- UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.) Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the issuance of bonds to pay unemployment compensation benefits when the fund created for that purpose is or will be depleted or to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program. (10th Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 462 HOSPITAL CLOSINGS (Schuring, K., West, T.) To require that a for-profit hospital and its affiliated health care facilities in certain counties follow specified procedures before ceasing operations or closing, and to declare an emergency. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

- CONSENT DECREES (<u>Butler</u>, <u>J.</u>) To require the approval of the General Assembly for a state agency to agree to a consent decree or court-approved settlement agreement that would alter or prohibit the enforcement of a law of this state. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 223 USED TIRES (<u>LaRose, F.</u>) To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 127 WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES (<u>LaRose</u>, F.) To require motor vehicle operators to take certain actions upon approaching a stationary waste collection vehicle collecting refuse on a roadside. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. Ginter, T., 466-8022), Rm. 114, 3 p.m. or after session

- SUBSTANCE ABUSE (Young, R.) To require the Department of Health to publish monthly drug overdose death information for each county, to create grant programs to support faith-based substance abuse services, to authorize an income tax deduction for physicians providing such services for free, and to allocate funds and make an appropriation for the grant programs. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)
- CHILD SUPPORT (Gavarone, T.) To make changes to the laws governing child support. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

House Federalism & Interstate Relations (Committee Record) (Chr. Roegner, K., 466-1177), Rm. 115, 3:30 p.m. or after session

- CONCEALED WEAPONS (<u>Householder, L.</u>, <u>Lanese, L.</u>) To permit law enforcement officers to carry firearms off duty in places otherwise prohibited for concealed handgun licensees. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party) House State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 017, 3:30 p.m. or after session
- ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (Greenspan, D., Ryan, S.) To allocate one-half of any surplus revenue to a new Local Government Road Improvement Fund, from which money will be distributed directly to local governments to fund road improvements. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
- HEALTH INSURANCE (Merrin, D.) To require, with respect to insurance contracted for or provided by the Department of Administrative Services, an individual who is not covered by a collective bargaining agreement to pay the same percentage of the premium for vision, dental, or life insurance as the individual pays for health insurance. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- SICK DAYS (Merrin, D.) To make changes with respect to the number of sick days provided to public employees. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- SAFETY TAX CREDIT (Schaffer, T.) To allow an income tax credit for law enforcement officials who purchase safety or protective items to be used in the course of official law enforcement activities. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

CHARTER HOSPITALS (<u>Greenspan, D.</u>) To require that all rights and interests in discoveries, inventions, or patents made by employees using charter county hospital facilities are the property of that charter county

hospital. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 454 CEMETERY LOTS (Patterson, J., Arndt, S.) To require a township to

compensate the owner of certain unused cemetery lots and rights which the township reenters after lack of response from the owner. (1st Hearing-

Sponsor)

HR 299 DRUG USE (Young, R., Ginter, T.) To recognize the efforts and successes

of the faith-based community in supporting and assisting individuals who are suffering from opioid and other drug abuse and addiction. (1st Hearing-

Sponsor)

SCR 15 YEAR DESIGNATION (O'Brien, S., Wilson, S.) To designate 2018 as

'Ohio's Year of the Trails.' (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

## Agency Calendar

Arts Council, 33rd Fl., 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, 10 a.m. (The Finance Committee meets previously at 9:30 a.m. and the Executive Committee meets at noon or immediately following the board meeting.)

Board of Building Appeals, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 1:30 p.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

# Event Planner

Ohio Oil and Gas Association and Ohio Environmental Council Action Fund news conference call on orphan well legislation, 9:30 a.m.

Managed Long-Term Services and Supports Study Committee, Rm. 1960, 77 S. High St., Columbus, 10 a.m.

Rep. Scott Lipps (R-Franklin) and Rep. Thomas West (D-Canton) and Ohio Pharmacists' Association news conference on prescription drug legislation, Press Briefing Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) & Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) fundraiser, Athletic Club, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$5,000, Sponsor: \$2,500, Host: \$1,000, Guest: \$500 to Friends of Ryan Smith and Friends of Dave Greenspan RSVP required to Taylor at 740.395.7656 or Taylor@smithforohio.com) Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hts.) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Friends of Janine Boyd. RSVP with Jenna Gravalis at 551-427-9895 or jgravalis@ohiodems.org)

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Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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Subject: Hannah News Stories for Tuesday, January 23, 2018

### Tuesday, January 23, 2018

#### IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

### Please click here to read the entire Hannah Report.

### **Today's Stories**

- GOP, Dems Pursue Redistricting Deal; Critics Blast SJR5 in Hearing
- ECOT Appeals Shutdown; Hearing Officer Backs ODE Again; Legislators Criticize Agency
- Lawmakers Aim to Place 'Right-to-Work' Measures on 2020 Ballot
- OCC, OSU Economist Slam Electric Security Plans, Praise HB247
- Witnesses Tell Committee Bail Reform Is Needed
- <u>Portman Addresses Reopening of Government, Reauthorization of CHIP, Imposition</u> of Tariffs
- Trooper's Search of Detained Suspect's Purse Unconstitutional
- State Government Roundup: Cold Case
- Campaign Corner: 90th House District
- Judicial Actions: Opinion
- Executive Actions: Appointments
- Legislative Schedule Changes

### **House Committee Reports**

- Criminal Justice
- Economic Development, Commerce and Labor
- Education and Career Readiness
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Finance
- Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development
- Government Accountability and Oversight
- Public Utilities
- Rules and Reference
- Ways and Means

#### **Senate Committee Reports**

- Government Oversight and Reform
- Health, Human Services and Medicaid

## Insurance and Financial Institutions

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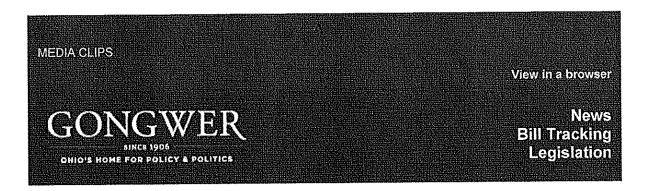
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# **NEWS**

Groups rally to fight Ohio senator's rival redistricting plan (Associated Press, 1/24/2018)

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Lawyers to Ohio court: Juries, not judges, should impose death sentences (Associated Press, 1/24/2018)

Lawmakers ax money proposed for film campus, Wasson Way in list to GOP leaders (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/24/2018)

'Right to work' could be on the ballot in Ohio with support from lawmakers (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)

Ohio among northern states to lose another U.S. House seat after next census - Out of Line: Impact 2017 and Beyond (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)

Should ECOT founder pay money back faster? State Auditor Dave Yost says yes while school floats new plan (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)

Columbus lawmaker's proposal would allow physician-assisted suicide in Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)

Democrats tussle over ECOT campaign money, but GOP got far more (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)

Ex-Tiberi aide to join DeWine's staff (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)

Lawmakers take baby steps toward redistricting compromise (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)

Portman says killing NAFTA would be mistake (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)

Right-to-work would help Ohio workers, GOP lawmakers say (Columbus Dispatch, 1/24/2018)

'On its last legs': Why election boards are seeking new voting machines (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)

Doctor-assisted suicide bill coming to Ohio Statehouse (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)

Ohio looking to change bail system, focusing less on money (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)

Portman warns Trump: killing NAFTA will kill jobs in Ohio (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)

State considers punishing cities that use traffic, red-light cameras (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)

Thousands head back to work at Wright-Patt as shutdown ends (Dayton Daily News, 1/24/2018)

Lawmakers argue ECOT closing preventable (Toledo Blade, 1/24/2018)

## **EDITORIALS**

A fleeting moment of compromise ends the government shutdown despite "No" votes from three Ohio Democrats: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/24/2018)

Scientists leading algae fight (Toledo Blade, 1/24/2018)

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# **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

1/24/2018



## STATE MIGHT SEEK \$19M MORE BACK FROM CLOSED CHARTER E-SCHOOL

The giant Ohio online charter school that abruptly closed mid-school-year lost another round of its multifaceted battle with the state over funding but said Tuesday that it's still fighting to reopen, even as many of its 12,000 students are looking for new schools.

### LAWYERS: JURIES, NOT JUDGES, SHOULD IMPOSE DEATH SENTENCES

Ohio's capital punishment law is unconstitutional because judges, not juries, impose death sentences in contrast to the 6th Amendment right to a jury trial, lawyers for a convicted killer argued before the state Supreme Court on Tuesday.

# The Columbus Dispatch

Olno's Greatest Online New spoper

## DEMOCRATS TUSSLE OVER ECOT CAMPAIGN MONEY, BUT GOP GOT FAR MORE

As Ohio's big bet on a big online charter school fizzles, candidates are pointing fingers over the \$2.1 million in campaign money the school's operator has doled out during the past two decades.

# COLUMBUS LAWMAKER'S PROPOSAL WOULD ALLOW PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE IN OHIO

Lisa Vigil Schattinger wants terminally ill Ohioans to have the option chosen by her stepfather, who said his piece and then made peace with impending death from bone marrow cancer.

# GOP LAWMAKERS, CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE, DEFEND ECOT; STATE SAYS SCHOOL PRIORITIZED PROFIT

Arguing that that Gov. John Kasich and the Ohio Department of Education should have kept ECOT open through the end of the school year, a handful of Republican lawmakers Tuesday defended the school and urged changes to stop a future shutdown in the middle of the school year.

RIGHT-TO-WORK WOULD HELP OHIO WORKERS, GOP LAWMAKERS SAY

A pair of Republican lawmakers said their proposal to put six right-to-work amendments on the 2020 ballot would help Ohio workers.

### LAWMAKERS TAKE BABY STEPS TOWARD REDISTRICTING COMPROMISE

A whiff of progress on congressional redistricting could be permeating the Statehouse.

### O'NEILL TELLS DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO VET HIM AFTER PAYING OFF TAX LIENS

Gubernatorial candidate William M. O'Neill is asking the Ohio Democratic Party to vet him after paying \$4,361 in past-due state income taxes.

### ECOT APPEALS SPONSOR'S DECISION THAT SHUT SCHOOL

Shuttered online giant ECOT is not giving up efforts to keep the school open through the end of the school year.

## EX-TIBERI AIDE TO JOIN DEWINE'S STAFF

Breann Gonzalez, a longtime aide to Rep. Pat Tiberi, R-Genoa Township, is joining the staff of Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine.

### **EDITORIAL: OHIOANS WANT REAL REDISTRICTING REFORM**

Ohio House Republicans' proposed congressional boundary-drawing "reform" is a cynical exercise in damage control.

# **Dayton Daily News**

www.daytondallynews.com

# MIAMI TWP. TRUSTEE: STATE WAGE LAW 'DISCRIMINATORY,' WASTING MILLIONS

A Miami Twp. trustee is asking the state to pay for the costs of what he called an unfunded mandate that is "most discriminatory" and that he said wastes millions of dollars across Ohio.

### **DOCTOR-ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL COMING TO OHIO STATEHOUSE**

Nearly three decades after Jack "Dr. Death" Kevorkian pushed doctor-assisted suicide into the national spotlight, state Sen. Charleta Tavares says it's time that Ohio legalize the practice with strict safeguards in place.

### ECOT APPEALS IN FIGHT TO STAY OPEN; EMAILS SHOW STATE FIGHT

The Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow on Tuesday announced it is appealing the decision of its sponsor, the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West, to close the embattled online school.

#### OHIO LOOKING TO CHANGE BAIL SYSTEM, FOCUSING LESS ON MONEY

The ACLU of Ohio says a plan to shift courts away from using cash-bail systems is a good start but doesn't go far enough to fix the broken system.

# 'ON ITS LAST LEGS': WHY ELECTION BOARDS ARE SEEKING NEW VOTING MACHINES

Voting equipment in many Ohio counties, including Butler County, is becoming obsolete as replacement parts are more difficult to obtain and software continues to age.

# THE PLAIN DEALER

# 'RIGHT TO WORK' COULD BE ON THE BALLOT IN OHIO WITH SUPPORT FROM LAWMAKERS

Supporters of "right to work" legislation are taking a different route to enact changes critics say would unnecessarily weaken unions in Ohio.

# SHOULD ECOT FOUNDER PAY MONEY BACK FASTER? STATE AUDITOR DAVE YOST SAYS YES WHILE SCHOOL FLOATS NEW PLAN

ECOT founder William Lager and two companies he owns have paid more than \$5 million back toward the \$80 million enrollment and state aid fight the online charter school is having with the state.

# OHIO AMONG NORTHERN STATES TO LOSE ANOTHER U.S. HOUSE SEAT AFTER NEXT CENSUS - OUT OF LINE: IMPACT 2017 AND BEYOND

Ohio is on target to lose another congressional seat after the 2020 census, making it even more important that the state gets it right in deciding how to reform the way its congressional districts are drawn.

# THE ENQUIRER

# IN OHIO, NO ONE WANTS GOV. JOHN KASICH'S ENDORSEMENT - INCLUDING HIS FORMER RUNNING MATE WHO HAS IT

In the Republican primary for Ohio governor, no one apparently wants Gov. John Kasich's endorsement - including the candidate who has it.

# THE BLADE

### LAWMAKERS ARGUE ECOT CLOSING PREVENTABLE

The Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West board voted Tuesday night to accept a court-supervised master to oversee the winding down of the defunct Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow.

From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 8:54 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 1/25/2018

# **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

1/25/2018



## OHIO PART OF STUDY TO REDUCE CHILD WELFARE WORKERS TURNOVER

Officials say Ohio is joining a national research project to reduce turnover among caseworkers in the child welfare field.

# The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Ouline Newspaper

## KASICH DISPUTES TAYLOR'S ASSERTION THEY HAVEN'T TALKED IN A YEAR

The office of Ohio Gov. John Kasich, and her own appointment calendar, dispute Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor's assertion that she has not talked to the governor in more than a year.

## OHIO LAWMAKERS GOING AFTER PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGERS

When Ohioans go to pharmacists for their prescriptions, they generally assume they'll be told the truth about the costs of their medicines.

# NO REDISTRICTING VOTE WITHOUT CITIZENS COALITION SUPPORT, SENATE PRESIDENT SAYS

Unless a citizens coalition agrees with a legislative plan to revamp Ohio's congressional redistricting process, Senate President Larry Obhof said the Senate won't vote on the measure.

# CLINTONVILLE ARCHITECT BECOMES LATEST TO RUN FOR TIBERI'S OLD SEAT

Yet another Republican has entered the race to replace Rep. Pat Tiberi.

# **CORDRAY WANTS TO BRING FIGHT FOR CONSUMERS TO OHIO**

Richard Cordray just finished a five-year stint running the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, but on Wednesday he said he is starting his fight for consumers in Ohio.

# STATE LAWMAKERS VOTE TO REGULATE 'E-BIKES'

Ohio is one of just 20 states that doesn't regulate electric bicycles, but that might be changing with new legislation.

# **Dayton Daily News**

www.daytendallynews.com

### **NEW BILL CALLS FOR MORE TRANSPARENCY IN DRUG PRICES**

A consumer protection bill introduced in the Ohio House of Representatives this week aims to increase transparency in prescription drug pricing.

# RIDING A SKATEBOARD WHILE HOLDING A CAR COULD BECOME ILLEGAL IN OHIO

Grabbing the bumper or side of a moving car and hitching a ride while on a skateboard is not specifically illegal in Ohio — something some state lawmakers want to change.

# TOOL WILL ALLOW THE PUBLIC TO FOLLOW THE MONEY IN OHIO POLITICS If you want to know what's going on in politics, the old adage is: follow the money.

# THE PLAIN DEALER

# ECOT STUDENTS RUSHING TO OTHER E-SCHOOLS BUT TRICKLING BACK TO DISTRICTS

Students from the just-closed ECOT online charter school have started to land in school districts and other charters, but the numbers remain low and it's too early to tell how well the process is working.

## OHIO PAC SUPPORTING OHIO WOMEN CANDIDATES RAISES \$750,000

The Matriots, a statewide PAC supporting female candidates, started last year when a small group of Columbus-area neighbors, friends and acquaintances stood together at the Women's March on Washington and felt something big.

## TALK IT OUT: SHOULD OHIO BECOME A 'RIGHT TO WORK' STATE?

Republican state Reps. John Becker and Craig Riedel have proposed a package of six constitutional amendments targeting how unions operate and are funded in Ohio.

# THE BLADE

## **VOTE DELAYED ON GOP REMAP PLAN**

Senate Republicans on Wednesday delayed a vote on changes to the inherently political process by which Ohio redraws congressional districts.

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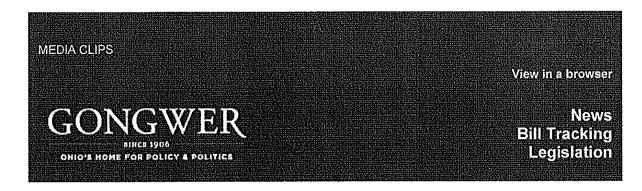
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# **NEWS**

Ohio Supreme Court sides with FirstEnergy in customer refund ruling (Akron Beacon Journal, 1/25/2018)

GOP gov race: No one wants Kasich's endorsement (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/25/2018)

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In Ohio, lives altered a year into Trump (Cincinnati Enquirer, 1/25/2018)

Ohio PAC supporting Ohio women candidates raises \$750,000 (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/25/2018)

Powerful opioids are easily sold through the Internet and shipped in the mail, investigation finds (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/25/2018)

Talk it out: Should Ohio become a 'right to work' state? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1/25/2018)

Campaign cash: Who got how much from ECOT (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)

Cordray wants to bring fight for consumers to Ohio (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)

Kasich disputes Taylor's assertion they haven't talked in a year (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)

No redistricting vote without citizens coalition support, Senate president says (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)

Ohio lawmakers going after pharmacy benefit managers (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)

State lawmakers vote to regulate "e-bikes" (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)

Ohio's tobacco prevention efforts get mostly Fs (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)

Riding a skateboard while holding a car could become illegal in Ohio (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)

State considers punishing cities that use traffic, red-light cameras (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)

Tool will allow the public to follow the money in Ohio politics (Dayton Daily News, 1/25/2018)

High court: State's FirstEnergy refund order was improper (Toledo Blade, 1/25/2018)

# Vote delayed on GOP remap plan (Toledo Blade, 1/25/2018)

# **EDITORIALS**

Editorial: CHIP breaks free from D.C. gridlock (Canton Repository, 1/25/2018)

Editorial: Ohioans want real redistricting reform (Columbus Dispatch, 1/25/2018)

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**Subject:** GOP Week in Review 1/22/18 – 1/28/18



# **GOP Week in Review**

1/22/18 - 1/28/18

### Farm and Dairy: Ohio Cattlemen's Association honors family farms

Ohio Rep. Brian Hill received the association's Industry Service Award. Hill, a longtime association member, raises beef cattle on his family farm in Muskingum County, and is currently serving his third term in the Ohio House of Representatives, after serving as a county commissioner for more than six years. ... "It's easy to go to Columbus to fight on your behalf," Hill told the cattlemen Saturday night.

### Columbus Dispatch: State lawmakers vote to regulate 'e-bikes'

House Bill 250, introduced by Rep. Tom Brinkman, a Cincinnati-area Republican, would regulate electric bicycles, also called e-bikes, and hold them to many of the same standards as normal bicycles. ... "This new technology in e-bikes will allow more Ohioans to use our wonderful trail network, longer and later in life," Brinkman said.

### Dayton Daily News: New bill calls for more transparency in drug prices

"Action is needed to address the rising prescription drug prices to protect Ohio consumers," said state Rep. Scott Lipps, R-Franklin, one of the sponsors of House Bill 479. "Prescription drug pricing in its supply chain is complex and broke and needs to be scrutinized."

# Alliance Review: State Rep. Christina Hagan shows support for emergency personnel

"I am honored to discuss legislative matters impacting our community leaders and safety services, and to work toward solutions with the Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association," said Hagan. "I'm thankful for the daily sacrifices of all our Ohio firefighters and first responders."

WHAM: Mom pushes for change after 3 year old denied heart transplant due to Down syndrome Miamisburg Representative Niraj Antani (R-District 42) is a primary sponsor of the bill and said, "They're told that they won't be able to follow the post operation regimen, their body won't be able to handle it, or that its implied that their life is less worthy and that's wrong."

### Sandusky Register: State bill aims to plug orphan wells

"As the representative of a district that is very concerned with the harmful effects of human activity on the environment ... I was proud to co-sponsor House Bill 225," Arndt said. "This legislation will help homeowners that discover abandoned orphan wells on their properties to properly address them."

## My Town NEO: Hudson boys cross country team recognized by Roegner, LaRose

"It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to win a state title," Roegner said. "Our Hudson Boys Cross Country Team won the Division I State Championship through steadfast dedication. With an average 3.99 GPA, they are incredible student athletes and have earned the admiration of the state of Ohio."

## Columbus Dispatch: Ohio lawmakers going after pharmacy benefit managers

Reps. Scott Lipps, R-Franklin, and Thomas West, D-Canton, say pharmacy benefit management companies (PBMs) are issuing "gag orders" to keep pharmacists quiet about what could be cheaper medicines for their clients, and keeping the extra money for themselves — something the lawmakers hope to ban with new legislation, House Bill 479.

## WKSU: Conservative lawmakers renew their push for Ohio to become a right-towork state

Reps. John Becker and Craig Riedel say their bill would allow voters to decide whether Ohio should be a right-to-work state for public and private sector employees and would put limits on unions to collect dues and spend money on political ads. Riedel says Ohioans should decide this issue, once and for all.

# <u>Marion Online</u>: Riordan McClain sworn in as State Representative of the 87th Ohio House <u>District</u>

"Riordan McClain's experience in the private sector and financial management will surely prove to be a valuable asset to our caucus," said Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville). ... "I accept this appointment and will be honored to serve Ohio's 87th House District as state representative. I am appreciative of all the support that I've received through this process and look to carry that forward into a successful term representing our shared values," said McClain.

# <u>Wilmington News Journal:</u> Guest column from Speaker Cliff Rosenberger: Business growth affirms healthy economy

The eighth consecutive year the state has experienced a record number of filings, new businesses have grown more than 46 percent since 2010. This continued progress is a

sure sign of economic health — when individuals are thriving and feel comfortable, they are able to invest in establishing their own business.

Portsmouth Daily Times: Rep. Johnson honors 'Burg with state resolution
Ohio State Representative Terry Johnson (R-McDermott) honored the Wheelersburg
Pirates' football program for its state championship run back in the fall.

From: report@hannah.com

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Subject: Hannah News Stories for Tuesday, February 13, 2018

### Tuesday, February 13, 2018

#### IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

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#### **Today's Stories**

- Pillich Expected to End Gubernatorial Campaign Wednesday
- <u>Chief Justice Suggests ECOT's Enrollment-Minus-Participation Argument Leads to</u> 'Absurd Result'
- ProMedica Signs Transfer Agreement with Toledo Abortion Clinic
- CSRAB Unveils Painting of Lincoln Addressing General Assembly
- Liberal Groups Slam 'Right-to-Work' Proposals, Offer Policy Alternatives
- 'Sexting' Ban Gets First Hearing
- Legislation Conforming Ohio Law to New Federal Tax Law Begins Hearings in House
- HB228 Draws Wide Range of Testimony on Gun, Self-Defense Issues
- School Board Talks Graduation, ECOT Response, Machine Scoring of Tests
- AEP Draws Vocal Support for Clean Energy Plan in First Public Hearing on ESP
- Hambley, Sweeney Introduce 'Ohio Proud Craft Beer Act'
- AG Warns of Romance Scams
- People in the News: Cole; Bowen
- Judicial Actions: Opinion
- Executive Action: Appointment

#### **House Committee Reports**

- Criminal Justice
- Economic Development, Commerce and Labor
- Education and Career Readiness
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Federalism and Interstate Relations
- Government Accountability and Oversight
- Public Utilities
- Rules and Reference
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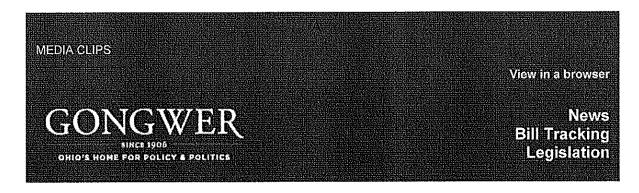
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 8:25 AM

To: DL Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Wednesday, February 14

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# **NEWS**

Akron prepares for a possible loss in court against the state (Akron Beacon Journal, 2/14/2018)

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Ohio Supreme Court hears arguments in online charter school case (Associated Press, 2/14/2018)

Report: Fertilizer, manure top Lake Erie phosphorus sources (Associated Press, 2/14/2018)

Source: Pillich to leave governor's race, back Cordray (Associated Press, 2/14/2018)

Portman 'shocked' ex-aide accused of abuse (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/14/2018)

Sole female Dem in gubernatorial race to quit (Cincinnati Enquirer, 2/14/2018)

Connie Pillich expected to drop out of the governor's race (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)

Lawmakers must rewrite Ohio bill to reflect new federal tax rules (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)

Ohio's charter school quality crackdown claims a big-city victim - the Cincinnati school district (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)

Skill games to be regulated by Ohio Casino Control Commission (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)

Chief justice to ECOT attorney: 'How is that not absurd?' (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

Kasich chosen to address graduates of Kennedy School in May (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

New report from pro-labor group pans right-to-work proposals (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

Ohio wants to require those on Medicaid to get a job (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

Pillich to leave race for governor, back Cordray (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

Podcast: A discussion with gubernatorial candidate William O'Neill (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

Portman shocked at allegations of abuse by former aide (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

President Trump jokes with Sherrod Brown on DACA (Columbus Dispatch, 2/14/2018)

Ohio considers raising child marriage age after DDN investigation (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2018)

Portman's vetting of staffer didn't turn up complaints of wife abuse (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2018)

Vicious dogs: Ohio moves to change laws on dog owners (Dayton Daily News, 2/14/2018)

ECOT asks high court to restore its funding (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2018)

Toledo's only abortion clinic now in time race to get transfer agreement signed (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2018)

### **EDITORIALS**

Unconscionable failure by Ohio Justices O'Donnell, DeWine to recuse in ECOT case after taking thousands in campaign dollars: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 2/14/2018)

Great Lakes once again in budget crosshairs (Toledo Blade, 2/14/2018)

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From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 8:54 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 2/14/2018

### **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

2/14/2018



#### HOSPITAL PACT MIGHT SAVE TOLEDO ABORTION CLINIC

A hospital system has authorized a patient-transfer agreement to keep the last abortion clinic in Toledo operating.

### The Columbus Dispatch

Olno's Greatest Online Newspaper

#### PILLICH TO LEAVE RACE FOR GOVERNOR, BACK CORDRAY

Only one of the original Democrats running for governor will still be in the race after Wednesday.

#### OHIO WANTS TO REQUIRE THOSE ON MEDICAID TO GET A JOB

Thousands of Ohioans soon might need to find a job or lose their Medicaid health insurance.

#### KASICH CHOSEN TO ADDRESS GRADUATES OF KENNEDY SCHOOL IN MAY

Gov. Kasich will address the 2018 graduates of the Harvard Kennedy School in May, the dean of the school said Tuesday.

## CHIEF JUSTICE ON ECOT CLAIM FOR STATE MONEY: 'HOW IS THAT NOT ABSURD?'

As ECOT attorney Marion Little finished his arguments for why, under the law, the online school should get full funding for students even if they only log in once a month and do no work, Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor interjected.

## KASICH POSTPONES FOREIGN TRIP TO ATTEND OFFICERS' FUNERAL IN WESTERVILLE

Long-time Westerville resident Gov. John Kasich is postponing a foreign trade trip to attend the Friday funeral of two police officers slain in his hometown on Saturday.

## A FIFTH OF OHIO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS NEED HELP TO EARN A DIPLOMA THIS YEAR

Less than five months from graduation, one out of five Ohio high school seniors still wouldn't qualify for a diploma under more-stringent state standards — requirements that at least temporarily have been softened to avert just such a crisis.

NEW REPORT FROM PRO-LABOR GROUP PANS RIGHT-TO-WORK PROPOSALS In the wake of proposed right-to-work amendments by Republican lawmakers, a newly released report is recommending politicians can support Ohio workers by backing off of regulating unions.

### **Dayton Daily News**

www.daytondallynews.com

### OHIO CONSIDERS RAISING CHILD MARRIAGE AGE AFTER DDN INVESTIGATION

An investigation by the Dayton Daily News into child marriage is prompting state lawmakers to introduce a bill that would bump up the legal marriage age to 18 for both males and females and allow 17-year-olds to marry with court approval.

#### VICIOUS DOGS: OHIO MOVES TO CHANGE LAWS ON DOG OWNERS

Four years after the gruesome attack that killed Dayton resident Klonda Richey, state lawmakers are taking a double barrel approach to finally putting more teeth in the state's vicious dog laws.

## CINCINNATI DEMOCRAT CONNIE PILLICH EXPECTED TO LEAVE GOVERNOR'S RACE

Former state representative Connie Pillich — the last woman leading a Democratic ticket for governor — is expected to drop out of the race and endorse former attorney general Rich Cordray on Wednesday, sources close to the campaign said.

### THE PLAIN DEALER

### Ohio's charter school quality crackdown claims a big-city victim the Cincinnati school district

Ohio's push to improve charter school quality has booted a major city school district - the Cincinnati Public Schools - out of the charter school business.

#### CONNIE PILLICH EXPECTED TO DROP OUT OF THE GOVERNOR'S RACE

Connie Pillich, the lone remaining Democratic woman running for governor in what was supposed to be the "year of the woman," will drop out of the race Wednesday to endorse Richard Cordray, according to two Democratic sources.

ECOT FUNDING QUESTIONED BY OHIO SUPREME COURT JUSTICES: "HOW IS IT NOT ABSURD?"

Ohio Supreme Court justices were wary this morning of how the ECOT online charter school wants to be funded as the school and Ohio Department of Education pleaded their cases to the court.

# Unconscionable failure by Ohio Justices O'Donnell, DeWine to recuse in ECOT case after taking thousands in campaign dollars: editorial

The seven-member Ohio Supreme Court is hearing arguments this morning in a case whose outcome may kill or revive the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow, or ECOT, the online charter school that shut down last month.

### THE ENQUIRER

## CONNIE PILLICH TO END GUBERNATORIAL BID; ENDORSE CORDRAY. WAS THE LONE FEMALE DEMOCRAT IN THE RACE

In the so-called "year of the woman," the sole female in the Democratic race for governor will bow out to endorse former Consumer Financial Protection Bureau director Richard Cordray.

<u>DEMOCRAT KATHY WYENANDT FILES TO RUN IN OHIO 52ND DISTRICT</u>
Democrat Kathy Wyenandt is challenging Republican George Lang for his Ohio House seat.

### THE BLADE

#### **ECOT** ASKS HIGH COURT TO RESTORE ITS FUNDING

Clinging to hope of reopening its virtual doors, what was once Ohio's largest online school on Tuesday urged the Ohio Supreme Court to halt state efforts to claw back tens of millions in past aid.

#### PILLICH TO DROP OHIO GOVERNOR BID

Another Democratic candidate for governor will drop out of the race Wednesday and throw her support to Richard Cordray for the party's nomination.

From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 8:54 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 2/26/2018

### **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

2/26/2018



### FUTURE UNCERTAIN AS OHIO HIGHER EDUCATION BOARD SITS IDLE

The future of Ohio's once-powerful higher education advisory board remains uncertain as lawmakers move to change the way the state oversees education.

#### OHIO MOVES TO ADD WRIGHT FLYER TO STATE SEAL AMID DISPUTE

Ohio is staking another public claim to the Wright brothers' legacy amid a dispute with Connecticut over an aviator that state says flew first.

#### **GOP** GOVERNOR TAPS ADVISERS FOR GUN POLICY TALKS

Ohio Gov. John Kasich says he has convened a diverse group of advisers on gun policy to help him come up with a consensus policy proposal that he can bring forward in the coming days.

### The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Online New yoper

### MEDICAL MARIJUANA MAY ARRIVE LATE IN OHIO

From litigation to audits to legislation, the attempted fixes are piling up for an Ohio medical marijuana program that has been beset by problems.

## <u>Democratic candidates for Ohio governor hope to win back Trump</u> voters

Getting Ohio Democrats who voted for President Donald Trump back into the fold was a theme Sunday as Democratic candidates for governor appeared before the public in Marysville.

### KASICH FAVORS ARMING TEACHERS, AGAINST 'STAND YOUR GROUND'

Ohio Gov. John Kasich said he is hoping that a group he's quietly convened to find solutions to gun violence in the state will be able to deliver something by the end of next week to the General Assembly.

### FRUSTRATED ACTIVIST BASHES KASICH, EYES RECREATIONAL WEED

An architect of Ohio's medical marijuana law Friday accused Gov. John Kasich of intentionally torpedoing the state's program, which is supposed to start in September.

### Union money now fuels GOP legislative campaigns in Ohio

Ohio has increasingly become an island among states that have passed a right-to-work law — an initiative strongly opposed by labor unions.

## NEARLY NEW LINEUP AT DEMOCRATS' NEXT OHIO GOVERNOR DEBATE IN TOLEDO

When four Democratic candidates for Ohio governor gathered for a debate in Columbus in October, they spent their time discussing Ohio's opioid crisis, the scandal surrounding online charter school ECOT, and the financial cost to local communities of state tax breaks for businesses.

### KASICH ASSAILS DEMOCRATS FOR LACKING AGENDA

Launching a spirited attack against the Democratic Party, Ohio Gov. John Kasich charged he has "no clue" what Democrats stand for and complained they have "no agenda."

## <u>CAPITOL INSIDER: KASICH CHANGES HIS TUNE ON 'ASSAULT WEAPONS' VOTE</u> Ohio Gov. John Kasich's evolution on gun issues apparently continues.

### **EDITORIAL: DOING NOTHING IS NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE**

Gun-rights advocates in the Ohio House of Representatives had every reason to expect House Bill 228 to pass easily, further dismantling the state's already-flimsy regulation of deadly weapons.

### **Dayton Daily News**

www.daytendallynews.com

## ANTHEM BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD ER POLICY CRITICIZED BY OHIO LAWMAKERS

Several Democratic state lawmakers want to penalize Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield for a new policy that does not cover some emergency room visits deemed by the insurer not to be emergencies.

### THE PLAIN DEALER

## KASICH, OTHER GOVERNORS RESTATE NATIONAL NEED TO DEAL WITH HEALTH CARE COSTS AND QUALITY

Ohio Gov. John Kasich and his counterparts from Colorado and Alaska came to the nation's capital Friday to remind policy makers, businesses and the public: There's still much work to do on health care.

'YOU KNOW, WHEN YOU GET PUNCHED, AT LEAST IT ONLY HURTS FOR A MINUTE' OHIO MATTERS; EPISODE 6 - JOE SCHIAVONI

State Sen. Joe Schiavoni acknowledges the Democratic gubernatorial primary has been a tough fight so far.

## REPUBLICAN OHIO GOVERNOR CANDIDATES SUPPORT ARMING TEACHERS TO HELP PREVENT SCHOOL SHOOTINGS

Both Republican candidates for Ohio governor say they support arming teachers as part of an approach to prevent further school shootings.

## STATE EMPLOYEES WITH CLAIMS PROCESSED BY ANTHEM NOT AFFECTED BY NEW ER RULE

State employees are not affected by a new Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield rule that leaves some policyholders with emergency-room bills when the company determines they didn't need emergency care.

## OHIO RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA BALLOT MEASURE MIGHT NOT HAPPEN IN 2018, BACKER SAYS

Ohioans hoping to vote to legalize recreational marijuana this year will likely have to wait a little longer, perhaps as long as two years.

## FACT CHECK: OHIO DEMOCRATS TAKE FRANK LAROSE'S REMARKS OUT OF CONTEXT

The Ohio Democratic Party on Friday circulated a 13-second audio recording of Republican Frank LaRose, a candidate for secretary of state, claiming that he was bragging about a Republican plan to gerrymander states across the country, including Ohio in 2011.

## MARY TAYLOR'S CHIEF OF STAFF HAS NEW JOB WITH OHIO'S MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

A longtime Kasich administration staffer has a new job advising Ohio's nascent medical marijuana program, but few details were available Friday about what he will do in the new role.

# ROLL OF SHAME OF OHIO LAWMAKERS WHO OVERRODE GOP GOV. TAFT'S 2006 VETO, ENDING CITIES' BANS ON MASSACRE-CAPABLE WEAPONS: THOMAS SUDDES

Some Ohioans sincerely believe the Second Amendment trumps any attempt to regulate massacre-capable guns.

## FIRST ENERGY CAN'T BE ALLOWED TO POCKET CORPORATE-TAX-CUT WINDFALL AND SHORT CUSTOMERS: EDITORIAL

The last time U.S. corporate tax rates were slashed, during the Reagan administration, some state utility regulators were slow off the mark in making sure investor-owned utilities didn't just pocket the profits without adjusting consumer bills, The New York Times reports.

### THE ENQUIRER

## THE NRA HAS A LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THESE OHIO REPUBLICANS – AND DEMOCRATS.

The National Rifle Association has long supported Republicans around the country, and vice versa.

### THE BLADE

#### **LITIGATION PROCEEDS OVER MEDICAL MARIJUANA LICENSING**

A lawsuit that could endanger the timeline for Ohio's rollout of its fledgling medical marijuana program will forge ahead despite proposed legislation to give the state a chance to correct licensing flaws.

From: Westlake, Libby

**Sent:** Friday, March 2, 2018 8:50 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 3/2/2018

### **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

3/2/2018



#### BILL WOULD REQUIRE DRIVERS TO MOVE OVER FOR GARBAGE TRUCKS

The Ohio House will consider legislation giving garbage trucks "move-over" protections in place for emergency vehicles.

#### NEXT PHASE OPENS IN OHIO'S \$8M OPIOID TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE

Ohio launched the second stage of its global technology challenge Wednesday aimed at finding solutions to the U.S. opioid crisis.

#### MORE THAN 131,000 ISSUED CONCEALED CARRY LICENSES IN OHIO

Ohio's attorney general says more than 131,000 residents were issued licenses last year to carry concealed weapons.

#### OHIO BILL WOULD ALLOW PROTECTIVE ORDERS FOR DATING VIOLENCE

A bipartisan bill allowing victims of dating violence to seek protective orders against alleged perpetrators is on its way to Ohio Republican Gov. John Kasich.

#### KASICH PROPOSES 'RED FLAG' LAW, OTHER GUN CHANGES IN STATE

Gov. John Kasich on Thursday advocated a "red flag" law for Ohio, a ban on armor-piercing ammunition and other gun policy positions he says represent political consensus in a bellwether state that could fly nationally.

#### 2 DEMOCRATS FOR OHIO OFFICES WANT OPEN REDISTRICTING PROCESS

Two Democrats seeking statewide office in Ohio are pitching a plan they say would guarantee Ohio's redistricting process for congressional districts is more transparent to the public.

### The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Online New graper

### FOR SCHIAVONI RUNNING MATE, DRUG CRISIS IS ALL IN THE FAMILY

Ohio's opioid epidemic is so extensive that it's struck the families of at least two of those seeking statewide office.

### KASICH UNVEILS 'UNANIMOUS' PROPOSALS TO CURB GUN VIOLENCE

Saying he has to deal with the art of what's possible — what can pass the Republicandominated General Assembly, Gov. John Kasich proposed six gun-law reforms on Thursday that he believes he can help Ohio avert some gun deaths.

#### CRITICS SLAM MEDICAID WORK PROPOSAL

Advocates, health-care providers and others slammed a state plan on Thursday that would require most non-disabled adults on Medicaid to work or lose their tax-funded health care.

#### LAWMAKERS OFFER COUNTIES \$114.5 MILLION FOR VOTING MACHINES

Counties would get nearly \$115 million in state money to replace aging voting machines in time for the 2019 election under a bill expected to pass the legislature this spring.

#### REP. BOGGS NEEDS HELP TO QUALIFY FOR PRIMARY BALLOT

State Rep. Kristin Boggs, D-Columbus, will need help from Republican Secretary of State Jon Husted in order to qualify to run as a write-in candidate for the May primary.

#### MAYOR GINTHER ENDORSES CORDRAY FOR GOVERNOR

Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther on Thursday endorsed Richard Cordray, former Ohio attorney general and former director of the U.S. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, in the Democratic primary for governor.

#### **EDITORIAL: WORKPLACE DRUG USE DEMANDS ATTENTION**

Drugs and workplaces don't mix. That's common sense, but now employers have more reasons to take a hard line against employee drug use.

### **Dayton Daily News**

www.daytondallyhews.com

#### More than 131,000 Ohioans get permits to carry concealed guns

More than 131,000 Ohioans got their licenses last year to carry concealed weapons — 77,281 new ones and 54,064 renewals, according to Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine.

### THE PLAIN DEALER

#### \$114.5 MILLION PROPOSED FOR NEW OHIO VOTING MACHINES

Ohio counties could soon get some money from the state to help replace aging voting equipment.

## PLANNED PARENTHOOD TO FOCUS ON OHIO RACES FOR U.S. SENATE AND GOVERNOR

Planned Parenthood political organizations announced Thursday that they'll spend at least \$20 million in this year's elections, with a particular focus on gubernatorial and Senate races in Ohio and seven other states.

### OHIO GOV. JOHN KASICH PROPOSES 6 GUN POLICY CHANGES

Tightening background checks for gun buyers and allowing "red flag" protection orders were among six gun violence policy recommendations made Thursday by a bipartisan panel assembled by Gov. John Kasich.

### <u>JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HASN'T DECIDED WHETHER TO PARTICIPATE IN OPIOID</u> LITIGATION

As U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions promised, the Justice Department on Thursday evening filed a "statement of interest" in the swath of lawsuits being heard in Cleveland that accuse drug manufacturers and distributors of heavily contributing to the nation's opioid epidemic.

### THE ENQUIRER

## <u>JOHN KASICH'S 'COMMONSENSE' GUN CONTROL PLAN: WOULD NEW OHIO GUN LAWS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?</u>

John Kasich wants to change Ohio's gun laws, touting support for "commonsense" measures from a handful of Republicans and Democrats.

### THE BLADE

#### KASICH PROPOSES GUN REFORM MEASURES

Gov. John Kasich on Thursday unveiled a package of proposed gun law reforms to prohibit the sale of armor-piercing ammunition and third-party "strawman" sales of guns to people prohibited from having them.

#### Proposal would fund new voting machines

Ohio would borrow \$114.5 million to help counties replace an aging fleet of voting machines in time by next year under a bill reworked Thursday.

#### **EDITORIAL: RIGHT-TO-WORK INFRINGES ON EMPLOYERS**

Is it too much to ask for some consistency from time to time?

#### **EDITORIAL: DENNIS KUCINICH LEADING ON GUN ISSUE**

Successful political campaigns sometimes catch a breeze they never counted on because of some unexpected occurrence that changes public attitudes between the time the candidates filed and the time the voters vote.

### **The Vindicator**

#### SCHIAVONI GETS THE MAHONING DEMOCRATIC ENDORSEMENT FOR GOVERNOR

When it came to endorsing a candidate for governor, the Mahoning County Democratic Party overwhelmingly went for one of its own.

From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 8:56 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 5/15/2018

### **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

5/15/2018



### GOP GOV. KASICH TO SHARE OHIO PLAN TO HELP LEGAL IMMIGRANTS

Ohio Gov. John Kasich is announcing an initiative aimed at helping legal immigrants successfully integrate in the state.

#### OHIO HOUSE GOP TO PICK NEW SPEAKER; LAST LEADER RESIGNED

Republicans in the Ohio House are slated to vote on a new House speaker after the previous leader resigned amid an FBI inquiry surrounding his activities.

### The Columbus Dispatch

Olio S Greatest Ordine Newspaper

### KASICH, DEWINE OPPOSE SPORTS BETTING; CORDRAY WOULD CONSIDER IT

Can you imagine betting a few bucks — legally — on the Ohio State University football Buckeyes to cover the spread against That Team up North?

## HUNDREDS GATHER AT STATEHOUSE TO MARK REBIRTH OF POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

Almost 50 years to the day after the original Poor People's Campaign marched on Washington, the current iteration of the movement descended on the Statehouse steps to call on the General Assembly to address the plight of the millions of people living in poverty.

### HOUSE GOP DRAGGED INTO CONTENTIOUS TUESDAY SPEAKER VOTE

The House speaker is one of the most powerful people in state government, and Ohio lawmakers are about to pick a new one in a rare mid-term replacement.

### Many state employees receive 8.7% raise over 3 years

Members of the state's largest employee union will receive a raise of more than 8 percent over three years in a contract ratified by the Ohio Civil Service Employees Association.

### DISPUTE OVER PROTECTION OF EVIDENCE IN ECOT CASE RESOLVED

The Ohio auditor's office has finished collecting data for a criminal investigation of failed online charter school ECOT and placed the records in an evidence locker, where they can be

opened and reviewed only by a judge's order under an agreement reached Monday in Franklin County Common Pleas Court.

### THE PLAIN DEALER

## SPORTS WAGERING COULD BE HEADING TO OHIO AFTER SUPREME COURT RULING

Placing sports bets at Ohio casinos made giant leap toward becoming legal with a decision from the U.S. Supreme Court on Monday.

## MIKE DEWINE RAISED \$1 MILLION IN 72 HOURS FOLLOWING HIS GOP PRIMARY WIN, HIS CAMPAIGN SAYS

Mike DeWine's campaign for governor raised \$1 million in the 72-hour period after he won the Republican nomination last week, his campaign said Monday.

## FORUM LOOKS TO FIND ANSWERS ON HOW TO GET MORE WOMEN INVOLVED IN POLITICS

Three politically astute women will share their insights into the disparity between men and women in politics at a Wednesday forum in Cleveland Heights.

## OHIO MEDICAL MARIJUANA COMPANIES AWAIT JUDGE'S DECISION ON WHETHER TO PAUSE GROW LICENSES

The decision of whether to halt a portion of Ohio's nascent medical marijuana program - which the state argues will delay cannabis from getting to sick patients - is now in Franklin County Common Pleas Judge Richard Frye's hands.

### THE ENQUIRER

## WILL OHIO LEGALIZE SPORTS GAMBLING AFTER U.S. SUPREME COURT DECISION?

Want to bet on the Cincinnati Bearcats, Ohio State University Buckeyes or Cincinnati Bengals?

## FBI INVESTIGATION: WHO WILL WIN THE GOP BATTLE TO LEAD THE OHIO HOUSE?

Right to work. Abortion restrictions. Gun laws. Money for schools. Medicaid expansion. A key person controlling decisions on these controversial, complex topics: the Ohio House speaker.

### THE BLADE

SUPREME COURT LETS STATES, INCLUDING OHIO, LEGALIZE SPORTS GAMBLING

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday opened the door for states like Ohio to enter the sports-betting arena, but it remains to be seen whether the Buckeye State is ready to walk through it.

### SCHOOL THAT TOOK ECOT STUDENTS WANTS POOR SCORES IGNORED

Maumee-based Ohio Virtual Academy and its sponsor are asking lawmakers to provide a "safe harbor" from potentially poor academic performance by students who transferred from the now-shuttered Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow.

From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 8:20 AM

To: DL Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Thursday, May 31

MEDIA CLIPS

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### **NEWS**

Trump signs bill for terminal patients to try unproven drugs (Akron Beacon Journal, 5/31/2018)

Group says Ohio needs office to lobby for more military jobs (Associated Press, 5/31/2018)

Mike DeWine says right-to-work is not on his agenda. So did GOP governors who later supported it. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/31/2018)

Paul Ryan to attend Troy Balderson fundraiser in suburban Columbus (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/31/2018)

Questions about funding stall Ohio bail-reform bill (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/31/2018)

State Rep. Scott Lipps wears his last name with a smile (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/31/2018)

Brown-Portman bill would give fentanyl detectors to law enforcement (Columbus Dispatch, 5/31/2018)

Democratic group assails Balderson on ECOT campaign cash (Columbus Dispatch, 5/31/2018)

Group says Ohio needs office to lobby for military jobs (Columbus Dispatch, 5/31/2018)

Speaker feud continues as Smith backers call for immediate vote (Columbus Dispatch, 5/31/2018)

Bill would push Ohio schools to open after Labor Day (Dayton Daily News, 5/31/2018)

Dayton company part of 'clean energy' movement that could create 20K Ohio jobs (Dayton Daily News, 5/31/2018)

Dems want to pin ECOT blame on GOP in fall election: What's really going on (Dayton Daily News, 5/31/2018)

Ohio House speaker candidate demands immediate vote (Toledo Blade, 5/31/2018)

Lawmakers losing patience get the promise of a light at the end of the tunnel (WDTN, 5/31/2018)

### **EDITORIALS**

Beacon Journal/Ohio.com editorial board: Listening to voters, the ACLU of Ohio way (Akron Beacon Journal, 5/31/2018)

A troubling window into Army Corps machinations over Cuyahoga River dredge: editorial (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/31/2018)

Decisions made in Columbus are forcing local tax increases (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 5/31/2018)

### Editorial: Only one real choice in Ohio House speaker mess (Columbus Dispatch, 5/31/2018)

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From: Westlake, Libby

Sent: Thursday, May 31, 2018 8:44 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 5/31/2018

### **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

5/31/2018



### GROUP SAYS OHIO NEEDS OFFICE TO LOBBY FOR MILITARY JOBS

Ohio needs an agency that would help put the state at the forefront of military development and lobby for its current bases, a statewide committee recommended.

### The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

### **DEMOCRATIC GROUP ASSAILS BALDERSON ON ECOT CAMPAIGN CASH**

An independent organization backing Democrats launched a digital TV commercial against U.S. House Republican candidate Troy Balderson for not giving up \$10,000 in campaign contributions to the founder of defunct online school ECOT.

#### SPEAKER FEUD CONTINUES AS SMITH BACKERS CALL FOR IMMEDIATE VOTE

Stressing that they are not the ones keeping the House from conducting business, Rep. Ryan Smith and about 25 of his supporters gathered Wednesday to urge a speaker's vote be called as soon as Thursday.

### EDITORIAL: ONLY ONE REAL CHOICE IN OHIO HOUSE SPEAKER MESS

The unprecedented breakdown of leadership in the Ohio House of Representatives is about one thing — serving one member's ambition to be speaker come January — and it's time for it to stop.

## Dayton Daily News

### BILL WOULD PUSH OHIO SCHOOLS TO OPEN AFTER LABOR DAY

A bill calling for Ohio schools to begin the academic year after Labor Day had its second hearing before the Ohio House Education Committee last week.

### THE PLAIN DEALER

## MIKE DEWINE SAYS RIGHT-TO-WORK IS NOT ON HIS AGENDA. SO DID GOP GOVERNORS WHO LATER SUPPORTED IT.

Attorney General Mike DeWine, the Republican nominee for governor, side-stepped questions on Wednesday about whether he would support so-called right-to-work legislation.

#### STATE REP. SCOTT LIPPS WEARS HIS LAST NAME WITH A SMILE

In the halls of the Ohio Statehouse, it's usually not hard to guess which lawmaker is state Rep. Scott Lipps.

### PAUL RYAN TO ATTEND TROY BALDERSON FUNDRAISER IN SUBURBAN COLUMBUS

U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan is set to be in suburban Columbus on Wednesday afternoon for a fundraiser on behalf of 12th Congressional District Republican nominee Troy Balderson, according to Balderson's campaign.

### THE BLADE

#### REAGAN TOKES RALLY TO PROMOTE SELF-DEFENSE, LEGISLATIVE REFORMS

In a public park less than five miles from where Reagan Tokes was killed 16 months ago, a rally will be held next week to retell her story and promote self-defense and legislative reforms to prevent that story from being repeated.

#### **OHIO HOUSE SPEAKER CANDIDATE DEMANDS IMMEDIATE VOTE**

The leading candidate to be Ohio's next House speaker insisted Wednesday on an immediate vote of the chamber rather than a change in rules to allow the current second-in-command to perform the duties of the job but without the title.

From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2018 8:18 AM

To: DL Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Thursday, June 14



### **NEWS**

Ex-Rep. Gabby Giffords speaks against gun violence in Ohio (Associated Press, 6/14/2018)

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Ohio's top court hears arguments on promotions tax dispute (Associated Press, 6/14/2018)

Mike Pence will be met with dancing drag queens in Columbus (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/14/2018)

Poll: Ohio voters want to send message to Trump (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/14/2018)

This 2018 poll has lots to make Ohio GOP worry (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/14/2018)

Businesses want loans to fix failing multi-employer pension system (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/14/2018)

Jim Renacci's Senate campaign is staffing up for November 2018 Ohio election (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/14/2018)

Ohio dark-money group broke campaign-finance rules, group claims (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/14/2018)

Richard Cordray, Mike DeWine tied in latest poll. Sherrod Brown up big ... again. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/14/2018)

Brown confident jobs safe at defense agencies in Whitehall (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

Businesses warn of dire threat if multiemployer pension crisis is not addressed (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

DeWine fights union plea for clothing allowance payments (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

DeWine, Portman will share spotlight during Pence visit (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

List of Ohio doctors approved to recommend medical marijuana grows (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

Partnership to free up more money for Ohio suicide prevention programs (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

Quinnipiac poll: DeWine-Cordray race too close to call (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

Republican auditor candidate says opponent doesn't understand job (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

Gov. John Kasich more popular with Democrats in Ohio than Republicans, poll says (Dayton Daily News, 6/14/2018)

New polls show Sherrod Brown up big over Jim Renacci in US Senate race (Dayton Daily News, 6/14/2018)

Who is Rep. Jim Jordan's favorite liberal? The answer might surprise you. (Dayton Daily News, 6/14/2018)

Sen. Sherrod Brown: Farm Bill might aid Lake Erie (Toledo Blade, 6/14/2018)

### **EDITORIALS**

Beacon Journal/Ohio.com editorial board: Forward with public universities (Akron Beacon Journal, 6/14/2018)

Editorial: Expect to hear = 2voter purge' into November (Canton Repository, 6/14/2018)

Editorial: Voter registrations won't be canceled; Ohioans should use them (Columbus Dispatch, 6/14/2018)

Sutton: If DeWine opposes right-to-work he should say so (Youngstown Vindicator, 6/14/2018)

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Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Thursday, June 28

MEDIA CLIPS

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### **NEWS**

Firm hired to investigate lawmaker also donated to him (Associated Press, 6/28/2018)

Ohio lawmakers look to provide online academy 'safe harbor' (Associated Press, 6/28/2018)

Grab a beer with man's best friend: Ohio expected to allow dogs on patios (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/28/2018)

This U.S. Supreme Court decision might have forced Ohio into 'right-to-work' (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/28/2018)

Bone appetit: Dogs could soon be welcome at bar and restaurant patios (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/28/2018)

Ohio lawmakers OK \$114.5 million for new voting machines (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/28/2018)

Ohio legislature passes blockchain legislation (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/28/2018)

Ohio Senate Democrats push for payday lending vote; Republicans scramble to shut it down (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/28/2018)

Schools that took in ECOT kids win 'safe harbor' from penalties for bad grades (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/28/2018)

Sherrod Brown nabs endorsement from Ohio doctors group (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/28/2018)

Drug middlemen charging Ohioans triple the going rate (Columbus Dispatch, 6/28/2018)

Law firm that cleared legislator also gave him cash (Columbus Dispatch, 6/28/2018)

Ohio legislature sends package of e-school bills to Kasich (Columbus Dispatch, 6/28/2018)

Ohio legislature sends package of e-school bills to Kasich (Columbus Dispatch, 6/28/2018)

Ohio payday lenders off the hook — for now at least (Columbus Dispatch, 6/28/2018)

Sexting bill looks to give teens a break for bad choice (Columbus Dispatch, 6/28/2018)

Ohio congressman: Delay replacing Justice Kennedy till after fall election (Dayton Daily News, 6/28/2018)

Ohio House votes to prohibit forcing churches to perform gay weddings (Dayton Daily News, 6/28/2018)

Ohio lawmakers vote to ban sexting by anyone under 19, set up diversion program (Dayton Daily News, 6/28/2018)

Ohio lawmakers vote to end fees charged for credit freezes (Dayton Daily News, 6/28/2018)

Ohio lawmakers vote to raise marriage age after Dayton Daily News investigation (Dayton Daily News, 6/28/2018)

High court strikes down fair-share fees for public workers (Toledo Blade, 6/28/2018)

Last minute bills move in Ohio House, Senate (Toledo Blade, 6/28/2018)

State lawmakers approve Lake Erie funding bill (Toledo Blade, 6/28/2018)

Toledo abortion clinic argues state fines unwarranted (Toledo Blade, 6/28/2018)

### **EDITORIALS**

Sarah LaTourette a rising star in Ohio House: Brent Larkin (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/28/2018)

YANTIINKA ARAMI ARIITAKIN ARIITAKIN ARIITAKA ARIITAKA ARIITAKA ARIITAKA ARIITAKA ARIITAKA ARIITAKA ARIITAKA AR

Editorial: Cops in schools are helpful with appropriate guidelines (Columbus Dispatch, 6/28/2018)

Payday lending fiasco (Toledo Blade, 6/28/2018)

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From: Westlake, Libby

**Sent:** Thursday, June 28, 2018 8:54 AM

To: Westlake, Libby

Subject: E-Clips for 6/28/2018

### **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

6/28/2018



### OHIO LAWMAKERS LOOK TO PROVIDE ONLINE ACADEMY 'SAFE HARBOR'

Ohio's Republican-led Legislature is preparing to temporarily relax academic performance standards on a virtual school that took in thousands of students from a now-shuttered competitor.

#### FIRM HIRED TO INVESTIGATE LAWMAKER ALSO DONATED TO HIM

A law firm that cleared one of Ohio's most powerful state lawmakers of a sexual harassment allegation in April contributed to the politician's campaign while the probe was going on, state campaign finance filings show.

### The Columbus Dispatch

Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

#### Drug middlemen charging Ohioans triple the going rate — or more

Pharmacy middlemen are charging Ohio taxpayers three to six times as much to process prescription drugs for the poor and disabled as the industry standard.

#### OHIO LEGISLATURE SENDS PACKAGE OF E-SCHOOL BILLS TO KASICH

With ECOT closed and other Ohio e-schools still struggling to verify the enrollment numbers used to pay them, state legislators sent a package of proposals to Gov. John Kasich aimed at clarifying the basis for paying the schools.

#### PASTOR PROTECTION ACT PASSES OVER DISCRIMINATION CONCERNS

A Pastor Protection Act that supporters say upholds religious freedom but critics call unnecessary and discriminatory against gay couples was approved by the Ohio House on Wednesday.

#### LAW FIRM THAT CLEARED LEGISLATOR ALSO GAVE HIM CASH

The Ohio House of Representatives regularly has turned to the law firm of Taft, Stettinius & Hollister when in need of an outside investigator.

#### SEXTING BILL LOOKS TO GIVE TEENS A BREAK FOR BAD CHOICE

Not wanting to hammer all teens with harsh penalties when they are caught sending nude photographs, the Ohio House voted unanimously on Wednesday to support a lesser penalty for young first-time offenders.

### **Dayton Daily News**

www.daytondallynews.com

#### Ohio House votes to require drivers to move over for trash trucks

A measure to require drivers to "move over" when passing trash trucks with flashing lights was approved by the Ohio House on Wednesday on a 84-0 vote.

### OHIO LAWMAKERS VOTE TO RAISE MARRIAGE AGE AFTER DAYTON DAILY NEWS INVESTIGATION

Following a Dayton Daily News investigation into thousands of minors getting married in Ohio, lawmakers on Wednesday voted to raise the marriage age to 18 and allow 17-year-olds to marry under some conditions.

#### OHIO TEACHERS MAY FACE MORE TRAINING ON YOUTH SUICIDE RISKS

Teachers and other public school workers would be required to be trained on the signs that a youth may be at risk of suicide, under a bill that passed the Ohio House on Wednesday by a 82-0 vote.

### THE PLAIN DEALER

### OHIO SENATE DEMOCRATS PUSH FOR PAYDAY LENDING VOTE; REPUBLICANS SCRAMBLE TO SHUT IT DOWN

Democrats on a committee vetting a proposal to restrict payday loans tried to advance the measure to the full Senate on Wednesday, but the Republican majority successfully defeated the effort.

### OHIO LAWMAKERS OK \$114.5 MILLION FOR NEW VOTING MACHINES Help is on the way to replace Ohio's aging voting machines.

## SCHOOLS THAT TOOK IN ECOT KIDS WIN 'SAFE HARBOR' FROM PENALTIES FOR BAD GRADES

ECOT students were so far behind other students that schools taking them in deserve a "safe harbor" from damage to their grades, the Ohio legislature decided Wednesday.

#### OHIO LEGISLATURE PASSES BLOCKCHAIN LEGISLATION

Ohio is close to becoming the latest state to offer legal support for blockchain-based business transactions, following a Wednesday vote by the state's General Assembly.

### OHIO LAWMAKERS PASS WAVE OF BILLS HEADING INTO SUMMER BREAK: CAPITOL LETTER

Wrapping up: On their final session day before the Ohio General Assembly heads into summer break, both chambers passed dozens of bills during marathon sessions that lasted well into Wednesday evening.

SARAH LATOURETTE A RISING STAR IN OHIO HOUSE: BRENT LARKIN Sarah LaTourette was afraid to tell her father.

### THE ENQUIRER

## GRAB A BEER WITH MAN'S BEST FRIEND: OHIO EXPECTED TO ALLOW DOGS ON PATIOS

In the middle of the dog days of summer or after a "ruff" time at work, you'll soon be able to sip a Bud – or maybe some hair of the dog – with man's best friend, thanks to a bill passed by Ohio lawmakers to allow dogs on outdoor patios.

## THIS U.S. SUPREME COURT DECISION MIGHT HAVE FORCED OHIO INTO 'RIGHT-TO-WORK'

Remember that bitter fight against Ohio's Senate Bill 5? A U.S. Supreme Court decision just upended part of it.

#### PAYDAY LENDING: NO VOTE ON CONTROVERSIAL BILL FOR NOW

Ohio lawmakers won't place any more restrictions on the payday lending industry for now – slowing down a bill that sped through one chamber following an FBI probe into its leader's travel with lobbyists.

### THE BLADE

#### STATE LAWMAKERS APPROVE LAKE ERIE FUNDING BILL

As the annual peak season for toxic algal blooms on Lake Erie approaches, lawmakers on Wednesday finalized a bipartisan measure putting \$36 million more in state funds behind efforts to tackle the issue even as critics argue that just throwing more money at the problem isn't the answer.

### LAST MINUTE BILLS MOVE IN OHIO HOUSE, SENATE

In their rush for the door for the summer, the Ohio House and Senate on Wednesday voted on more than 50 bills, with some headed for the governor's signature.

#### BILL PROTECTING E-SCHOOL HEADS TO GOVERNOR

A bill shielding what is now Ohio's largest online school and its sponsor from the negative consequences of accepting thousands of former Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow students is headed to Gov. John Kasich for his signature.

#### **EDITORIAL: PAYDAY LENDING FIASCO**

Clamping down on predatory lenders, who charge Ohioans the highest interest rates in the nation, should not require a constitutional amendment, but apparently it's going to.

From: Gongwer News Service Sent: Friday, July 6, 2018 8:29 AM

To: DL Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Friday, July 6



### **NEWS**

Payday Ioans, guns among stalled issues at Ohio Statehouse (Associated Press, 7/6/2018)

Status of 2,300 former ECOT students unknown, Associated Press reports (Associated Press, 7/6/2018)

Why is PG Sittenfeld raising money? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/6/2018)

Why Ohio keeps voting on odd, complicated issues (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/6/2018)

Ohio drug treatment and rehabilitation amendment could be on November ballot (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/6/2018)

Ohio Libertarians seek a return to the ballot this year (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/6/2018)

Right-to-work group demands Ohio stop collecting union dues from some state workers (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/6/2018)

What medical conditions can be treated with medical marijuana in Ohio? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/6/2018)

Democrat Danny O'Connor launches ad linking himself to ... John Kasich? (Columbus Dispatch, 7/6/2018)

DeWine says hands tied on pursuing ECOT -- until trial-court ruling (Columbus Dispatch, 7/6/2018)

Ohio Libertarians submit petition forms to regain minor-party status (Columbus Dispatch, 7/6/2018)

Ohio native Andrew Wheeler, former coal lobbyist, is new EPA leader (Columbus Dispatch, 7/6/2018)

Trump says he doesn't believe allegations against Jim Jordan; new victim emerges (Columbus Dispatch, 7/6/2018)

Congressman Jim Jordan knew about sex abuse at OSU, former wrestlers say (Dayton Daily News, 7/6/2018)

Medical marijuana in Ohio: 8 key questions answered as the program nears (Dayton Daily News, 7/6/2018)

Ohio lawmakers respond to EPA chief resignation (Dayton Daily News, 7/6/2018)

Local dog breeders, retailers react to new anti-puppy-mill law (Toledo Blade, 7/6/2018)

Two Ballot Campaigns Spend Holiday Collecting Signatures (WOSU Public Media, 7/6/2018)

### **EDITORIALS**

Editorial: Statehouse security should be applied evenly to all (Columbus Dispatch, 7/6/2018)

### Richard Cordray's Nazi analogy was an overreach (Toledo Blade, 7/6/2018)

Slavery in Ohio (Toledo Blade, 7/6/2018)

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Subject: E-Clips for 7/6/2018

### **HOUSE E-CLIPS**

7/6/2018



#### OHIO UNSURE OF STATUS OF 2,300 STUDENTS FROM CLOSED E-SCHOOL

Many of the students enrolled in Ohio's largest online charter school when it closed in January have transferred to other schools, but state officials don't know what happened with about 2,300 students.

### OHIO NATIVE ANDREW WHEELER, FORMER COAL LOBBYIST, IS NEW EPA LEADER

The new leader of the Environmental Protection Agency is a former coal industry lobbyist who helped lead an industry fight against regulations that protect Americans' health and address climate change.

### The Columbus Dispatch

Ohlo's Greatest Online Newspaper

### **DEWINE SAYS HANDS TIED ON PURSUING ECOT -- UNTIL TRIAL-COURT** RULING

Responding to critics questioning why it did not take action against ECOT founder Bill Lager years ago, the office of Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine says its hands were legally tied until a lower court ruling in March.

## OHIO LIBERTARIANS SUBMIT PETITION FORMS TO REGAIN MINOR-PARTY STATUS

The Libertarian Party of Ohio expects its comeback to succeed, allowing the party to field candidates for governor, U.S. Senate and other offices this fall.

### <u>DEMOCRAT DANNY O'CONNOR LAUNCHES AD LINKING HIMSELF TO ... JOHN</u> KASICH?

In a bid to win the support of independents and moderate Republicans, Democratic congressional candidate Danny O'Connor has launched a 30-second TV commercial

featuring an endorsement from a Delaware woman who voted for Ohio Gov. John Kasich and President Donald Trump.

### EDITORIAL: STATEHOUSE SECURITY SHOULD BE APPLIED EVENLY TO ALL

It is disappointing that Statehouse security officials and a two-term state representative haven't been able to resolve the lawmaker's allegation that she has been inappropriately hassled multiple times while trying to enter the building.

### THE PLAIN DEALER

## RIGHT-TO-WORK GROUP DEMANDS OHIO STOP COLLECTING UNION DUES FROM SOME STATE WORKERS

A "right-to-work" advocacy group has threatened to launch a class-action suit against Ohio and 19 other states if they don't immediately stop deducting union dues from non-union public employees' paychecks following a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling.

### OHIO DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION AMENDMENT COULD BE ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

Supporters of a proposal to reduce penalties for nonviolent drug crime offenders submitted hundreds of thousands of signatures on Wednesday to put the measure on the November ballot.

### What medical conditions can be treated with medical marijuana in Ohio?

The success of a state's medical marijuana program can hinge on what medical conditions qualify a patient for treatment with cannabis.

#### OHIO LIBERTARIANS SEEK A RETURN TO THE BALLOT THIS YEAR

After almost four years in the political wilderness, the Libertarian Party of Ohio is seeking to regain state recognition for the 2018 midterm election.

## 'RIGHT-TO-WORK' GROUP THREATENS TO SUE OHIO AFTER SUPREME COURT RULING: CAPITOL LETTER

Just due it: A "right-to-work" advocacy group has threatened Ohio with a lawsuit if it doesn't immediately stop collecting union dues from non-union state workers.

### THE ENQUIRER

## DIALYSIS TO DUELS: WHY OHIO KEEPS VOTING ON ODD, COMPLICATED BALLOT ISSUES

Are you well-versed in kidney dialysis pricing? Do you understand how Medicaid pays for prescription drugs?



#### RICHARD CORDRAY'S NAZI ANALOGY WAS AN OVERREACH

Republicans have pounced on Ohio Democratic governor candidate Richard Cordray for referencing Nazis in two recent rallies.

#### LOCAL DOG BREEDERS, RETAILERS REACT TO NEW ANTI-PUPPY-MILL LAW

Richard Stroshine, co-owner of Stroshine's Studs and Buds in Northwood, is too familiar with the horrors of puppy mills.

#### **EDITORIAL: SLAVERY IN OHIO**

Former U.S. Attorney Steve Dettelbach is running for Attorney General of Ohio, in part, on the promise that he will focus on human trafficking.

#### **EDITORIAL: REGISTER TO VOTE NOW**

If you haven't voted in a while, check to make sure you are registered.

From: The Repository

Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2016 9:41 AM

To: Schafer, Abby

Subject: City man involved in crash on Lincoln Way dies



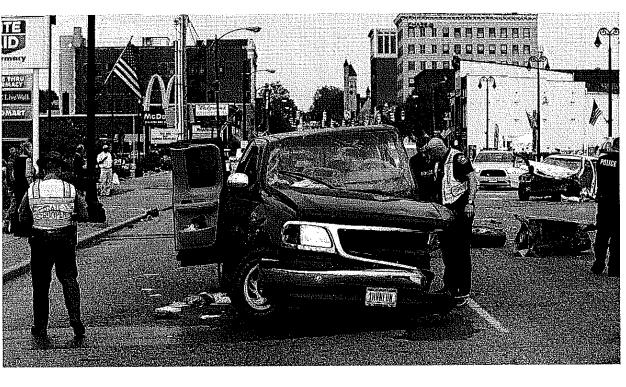
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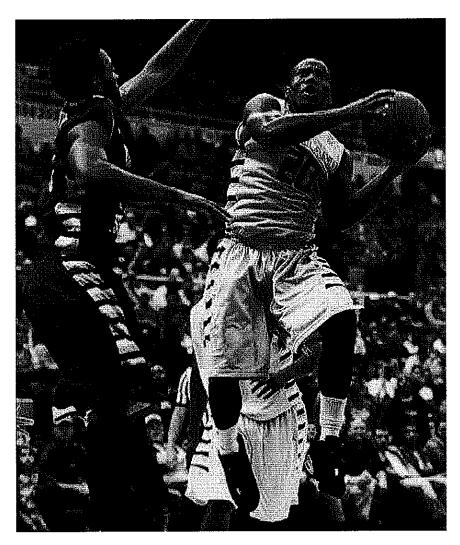
Canton - Saturday June 25, 2016



# **Daily Newsletter**

Stories you must read





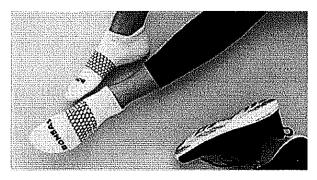
## Cavs draft Oakland guard Felder

Felder is just the fifth player in D over the last 20 years to average points and six assists in a single



# Belden at Georgetown closed until Monday; boi in effect

CANTON The intersection of Belden Avenue NE and Geo Road NE will be closed until Monday because of a water n break, and residents are



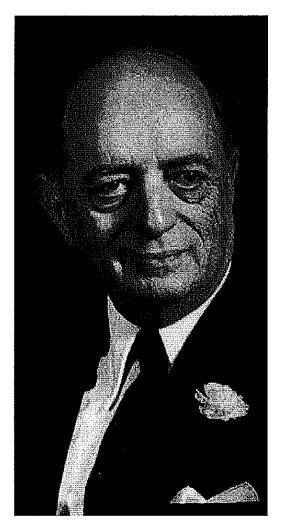
### 8 Reasons Why People Are Obsessed With These Socks

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#### Stark's Famous: Frank Mergus

About• Born Oct. 17, 1901, Arcadia, Greece. Died Aug. 6, 198 Founding president of Mergus' Restaurant, a popular downtov Canton eatery he opened in 1943. The restaurant closed in 19 Recipient, Tri-County Restaurant Associatio...

### (No heading)

WASHINGTON Democrats are increasingly hopeful that the huge fissures between Hillary Clinton and Sanders slowly will fade, allowing the party to unify itself by the time delegates arrive at next month's convention in Philadelphia.Although Sanders ...



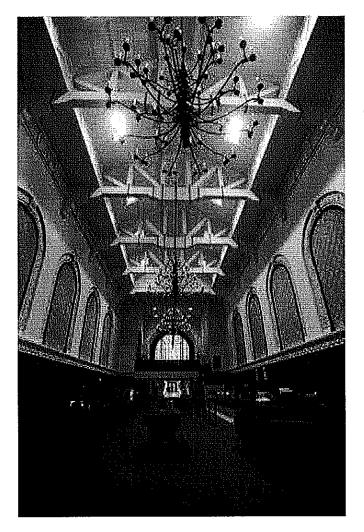
#### 'Just a kid from Akr honored in his hom

His voice hoarse from nearly nonstop celebra LeBron James waited end of yet another par remind a crowd filled v family, friends and fan they came.



### Thousands desce Jackson plaza to I Cavs' Delly

A surprise appearance Thursday at Restore C Pressed drew hordes fans who wanted to m Matthew Dellavedova, guard for the national champions Cleveland Cavaliers.



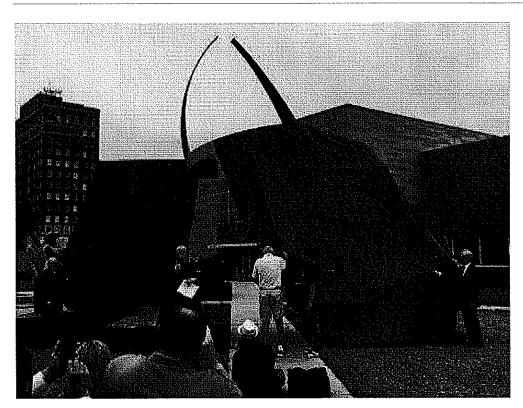
# Keybank is relocating its downtown Can branch from the former Harter Bank buil

On Monday, the Cleveland-based bank will open downtown Canton branch at 100 Central Plaza.



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## New HOF sculptur makes debut

CANTON Officials fror Pro Football Hall of Fa ArtsinStark, the Eric S Family YMCA and the Canton huddled Thurs downtown Canton for formal unveiling of the addition to the city's pi project commemorating...

Supreme Court approves using race as factor in admitting students

Case comes from University of Texas, which also uses SAT scores, community service and socioeconstatus to make selections.







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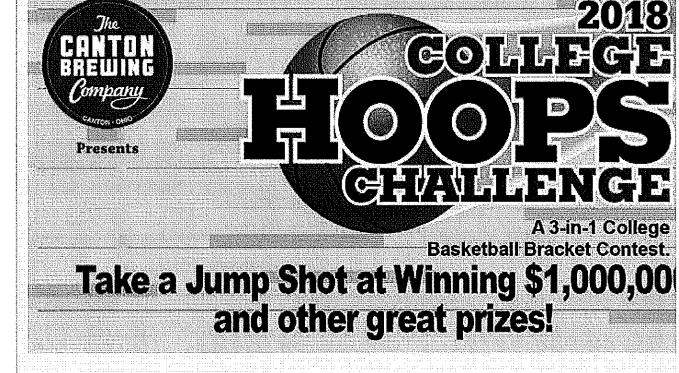
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Complete a bracket for the 2018 Men's College Basketball Tournament before each round, and compete for a chance to wir One Million Dollars!

Don't Wait - First tournament game starts on Tuesday, March 13th.

Have fun and please share with your family and friends for some added competition.

May the best bracket win!

Contest URL: http://cantonrep.collegehoops.upickem.net

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plD3sFZAf6Bf9w0zs\_xWGKLqrTRNukbzbfqnPSlfjnPZVly5sZnigy9F09Kiv8bVxb4N3OBBwJ42u6G3B3 QZPrpRteoX8VEO9VVA0D6l4e\_GYsnL594UD3Q64lEsAlXdU2NlXUhec4aM0l6xAUWBWAA/I70%3Ah ttp%3A%2F%2Fcantonrep\_collegehoops.upickem.net%2Fcollegebasketball%2Femails.aspe = A From: Gongwer News Service

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 27, 2018 10:16 PM

To: DL\_Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Report, Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Attachments: Jun27Senate.htm; 180627dayplan.htm; Jun27.htm; Jun27House.htm



# OHIO REPORT WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Lake Erie, Voting Machine Funding Among Bills Headed To Governor

Bills On Religion, Pharmacy Benefit Managers Among Dozens Backed By House

HANNASININ KANDAN K

Senate Passes Measures Focused On Reducing Regulations

Bills Amended To Enhance Online School Oversight Head To Governor

Senate Panel Delays Vote On Energy Standards, Wind Setback Bill

Proposed Regulations Inspired By State Fair Ride Death Get Initial Hearing

High Court Strikes Down 'Agency Fees' For Public Sector Unions; Kennedy Announces Retirement

Chairman: Senate Looking For Balance With Payday Lending Measure

Prosecutors Praise Beefed Up Parole Monitoring Bill

Senate Releases Session Calendar

**Governor's Appointments** 

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

**Senate Committee Hearings** 

**Energy & Natural Resources** 

**Government Oversight & Reform** 

**Finance** 

**Transportation, Commerce & Workforce** 

Education

**House Committee Hearings** 

**Agriculture & Rural Development** 

Insurance

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### **ACTIVITY REPORTS**

House

Senate

### **CALENDARS**

**Day Planner** 

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# Senate Activity for Wednesday, June 27, 2018

#### SB 313 📓

COLLEGE APPLICATION MONTH (Schiavoni, J.) To establish the College Application Month program. Am. 3314.03, 3326.11, and 3328.24 and to enact sections 3313.6024 and 3333.301.

#### SB 314

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS (Schiavoni, J.) With regard to mental health services in public and nonpublic schools, to require school districts to employ school psychologists and intervention specialists, to provide an additional state payment to school districts for school psychologist and intervention specialist services, and to make an appropriation. Am. sections 3314.03 and 3326.11 and to enact sections 3301.0730, 3317.26, 3319.077, and 3319.078 of the Revised Code and to amend Section 265.10 of Am. Sub. H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly and Section 265.210 of Am. Sub. H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly, as subsequently amended.

#### **PASSED**

#### HB 18

SPECIAL ELECTIONS (<u>Pelanda, D., Retherford, W.</u>) to eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances; to authorize local elected officers that have levied a hotel lodging excise tax, or a designee of such officers, to simultaneously hold the position of officer or member of the board of trustees of a convention and visitors' bureau without constituting incompatible offices; and to require that, upon request, county auditors, municipal fiscal officers, and their employees must share lodging tax return information with the directors of convention and visitors' bureaus operating in their counties.

(32-0 (Earlier REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE)

Gongwer Coverage

#### HB 87

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** (<u>Roegner</u>, <u>K.</u>) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of the enrollment records of a community school, to clarify the time period within which a school district emergency levy or substitute levy may be renewed or replaced, to clarify the responsibilities of a school district treasurer regarding the signing or executing of certain documents, to require the State Board of

Education to adopt standards for learning management software for internetand computer-based community schools, regarding qualification for state payments by internet- or computer-based community schools, regarding joint health and medical insurance programs by political subdivisions and county boards of developmental disabilities, regarding submission of five-year financial forecasts by public schools, and regarding the moratorium on certain provisions affecting community schools and school districts whose enrollments were affected due to enrolling students of a suspended e-school. 32-0 (Schiavoni & Skindell) Earlier REPORTED-AMENDED

Gongwer Coverage

HB 95

**DISTRACTED DRIVING** (<u>Hughes, J.</u>, <u>Seitz, B.</u>) To establish an enhanced penalty for committing a moving violation while distracted if the distraction is the apparent cause of the violation and to reenact provisions of law that specified that certain electronic wireless communications device violations were allied offenses of similar import.

31-1 (Jordan)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 168

**CEMETERY REGISTRATION** (<u>Stein, D.</u>) To modify duties of the Division of Real Estate in the Department of Commerce regarding cemetery registration, to specify cemetery owners must reasonably maintain cemeteries, to establish the Cemetery Grant Program, to allow the Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors to review and vote upon certain license suspensions by telephone, to make various other changes to the embalmers, funeral directors, and crematory licensing laws, and to make an appropriation. 32-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 263 🗟

**OUTDOOR DINING AREAS** (<u>Lanese</u>, <u>L.</u>) To generally allow an owner, keeper, or harborer of a dog to take the dog in an outdoor dining area of a retail food establishment or food service operation. 32-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 312

POLITICAL SUBDIVISION SPENDING (<u>Schuring, K., Greenspan, D.</u>) To regulate the use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions, to modify the duties and powers of the Auditor of State, to specify that electronic submission of a public record request entitles the requestor to damages if the public office fails to comply with the Public Records Act, to make changes to

the law governing financial planning and supervision commissions, and to authorize a property tax abatement for certain property subject to a submerged land lease and held by a municipal corporation.

32-0 (Earlier REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE (No testimony)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 336 **■** 

**LICENSE FEES** (<u>Barnes</u>, <u>J.</u>, <u>Greenspan</u>, <u>D.</u>) To prohibit the imposition of driver's license and temporary instruction permit reinstatement fees in specified circumstances and to name this act the Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Initiative.

32-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 347 🜌

**ROAD NAMING** (Kelly, B., Dever, J.) To designate multiple memorial highways.

32-0 (Earlier REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE)

Gongwer Coverage

SB 119 🝱

**OPIOID MEDICATIONS** (<u>Hackett, B.</u>, <u>Hottinger, J.</u>) Regarding naltrexone and medication-assisted treatment.

32-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SB 229 🚂

**CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** (<u>Eklund</u>, <u>J</u>.) To modify the laws pertaining to regulation of controlled substances and to make other changes in the laws administered by the State Board of Pharmacy.

32-0

Gongwer Coverage

SB 255 🍱

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING (McColley, R.) To establish a statewide policy on occupational regulation, to require standing committees of the General Assembly to periodically review occupational licensing boards regarding their sunset, and to require the Legislative Service Commission to perform assessments of occupational licensing bills and state regulation of occupations.

24-8 (Earlier REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SB 273 RATING AGENCIES (Hackett, B.) To enact for the Revised Code a definition of the term "rating agency."

32-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SB 293 ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS (Peterson, B., McColley, R.) To require agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions.

23-9 (Earlier REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE)

Gongwer Coverage

APPALACHIAN STORAGE HUB (Balderson, T.) To urge the Congress of the United States to enact various bills advancing the development of an Appalachian storage hub.

31-1 (Skindell)

Gongwer Coverage

FEDERALISM (Obhof, L., Peterson, B.) To reassert the principles of federalism found throughout the Constitution of the United States of America and embodied in the Tenth Amendment, to notify Congress to limit and end certain mandates, and to insist that federal legislation contravening the Tenth Amendment be prohibited or repealed.

25-7

Gongwer Coverage

#### INFORMALLY PASSED

DAY DESIGNATION (<u>Hackett, B.</u>) To designate multiple memorial highways and bridges, to create multiple monstandard license plates, to create multiple special designations, and to designate John Glenn's childhood home as a state historic site.

#### SENATE CONCURS IN HOUSE AMENDMENTS

CRIMINAL LAWS (<u>Eklund</u>, <u>J.</u>, <u>Tavares</u>, <u>C.</u>) To modify criminal sentencing and corrections law by including the promotion of effective rehabilitation as a purpose of felony sentencing, removing the one-year minimum for presumptive fourth or fifth degree felony community control sanctions, modifying sanctions for a violation of a community control condition, modifying the manner of calculating confinement credits, modifying eligibility

criteria and procedures for granting pre-trial diversion and intervention in lieu of conviction, making offenders convicted of certain multiple fourth or fifth degree felonies eligible for conviction record sealing, revising procedures for the Adult Parole Authority to grant a final release or terminate post-release control, and modifying the criteria for considering a prison term sanction for a post-release control violation; to extend the State Highway Patrol's authority to enforce criminal laws to also apply to the Northeast Ohio Correctional Center; to modify the penalty for an employer's failure to remit state income taxes withheld from an employee; and to authorize the conveyance of state-owned real estate.

29-0

#### **Gongwer Coverage**

SB 127 👼

**WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES** (<u>LaRose, F.</u>) To require motor vehicle operators to take certain actions upon approaching a stationary waste collection vehicle collecting refuse on a roadside.

29-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SB 135 📓

**VOTING EQUIPMENT** (<u>LaRose, F.</u>) To make supplemental operating appropriations for the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium and supplemental capital appropriations for the FY 2017-FY 2018 biennium to implement a voting machine and equipment acquisition program.

31-1 (Jordan)

Gongwer Coverage

SB 216

SCHOOL REGULATIONS (<u>Huffman, M.</u>) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs, to add the territory of Summit County to the Stark State College District, and to prescribe procedures for appointing the board of trustees of the combined technical college district.

28-1 (Brown)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SB 220 📓

CYBERSECURITY (Hackett, B., Bacon, K.) To provide a legal safe harbor to covered entities that implement a specified cybersecurity program, to allow transactions recorded by blockchain technology under the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, and to alter the definition of "key employee" under the Casino Gaming Law.

29-0

#### Gongwer Coverage

SB 221

**AGENCY RULEMAKING** (<u>Uecker, J.</u>) To reform agency rule-making and legislative review thereof.

23-6

Gongwer Coverage

SB 239 📓

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS (<u>Dolan, M.</u>) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments to clarify that a municipal corporation eligible to designate a tourism development district may designate more than one district, to specify that the American Law Institute's approved "Restatement of the Law, Liability Insurance" does not constitute the public policy of Ohio, to designate a portion of U.S. Route 33 in Meigs County as the "Steve Story Memorial Highway," to designate a portion of Interstate Route 270 in Franklin County as the "Officers Anthony Morelli and Eric Joering Memorial Highway," and to designate the portion of U.S. Route 24 in Henry County as the "Henry County Veterans Highway."

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SB 299

WATER IMPROVEMENTS (Gardner, R., O'Brien, S.) To credit additional amounts of the Local Government Fund to fund public safety services in areas that experienced a 30% or more decrease in the taxable value of certain power plants between 2016 and 2017, to phase out the payments over ten years, to increase the appropriation to the Local Government Fund; to support broadband development; to establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project; and to make appropriations, including appropriations for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie and the National Guard Scholarship Program. 29-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

#### CONFERENCE REPORT ADOPTED

<u>SB 1</u> ■

DRUG OFFENSES (<u>LaRose</u>, <u>F.</u>) To increase penalties for drug trafficking violations, drug possession violations, and aggravated funding of drug trafficking when the drug involved in the offense is a fentanyl-related compound, except for drug possession violations when the fentanyl-related compound is combined with marihuana or a Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance and the offender did not know of the fentanyl content; to revise the manner of determining sentence for certain violations of the offense of

permitting drug abuse; and to add lisdexamfetamine to the list of schedule il controlled substances.

31-1 (Skindell)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

#### COMMITTEE HEARINGS

**Energy & Natural Resources** 

HB 114 RENEWABLE ENERGY (Blessing, L.) To revise the provisions governing

renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter

funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program.

(SCHEDULED BUT NOT HEARD (See separate story); 8th Hearing-

Possible amendments & vote)

SB 51 LAKE ERIE (Skindell, M., Eklund, J.) To authorize the creation of a special

improvement district to facilitate Lake Erie shoreline improvement.

(REPORTED-AMENDED (No testimony); 4th Hearing-All testimony-

Possible vote)

Before reporting the measure, the committee adopted an amendment from <u>Sen. Michael Skindell</u> (D-Lakewood). The senator said his fellow lead cosponsor, <u>Sen. John Eklund</u> (R-Chardon), has also signed off on the change, which ensures that if state property lies within the district, the required assessment will not be forced upon the state.

Government Oversight & Reform

HB 18 SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Pelanda, D., Retherford, W.) To eliminate the

requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances. (REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE; 2nd Hearing-All testimony-

Possible amendments & vote)

A substitute version offered by chairman <u>Sen. Bill Coley</u> (R-Liberty Twp.) rolls another measure (<u>SB 252</u>) into the bill that allows local elected officials to serve on the board of a convention and visitors' bureau.

In written proponent testimony, <u>Secretary of State Jon Husted</u> said the original measure will save taxpayer dollars. He noted that a special congressional election in 2016 with just one candidate costed \$340,000.

HB 312 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION SPENDING (Schuring, K., Greenspan, D.)

Regarding use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions. (REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE (No testimony); 4th Hearing-All testimony-

Possible amendments & vote)

A substitute version of the bill offered by <u>Sen. Matt Huffman</u> (R-Lima) largely cleans up language in the bill and also continues a property tax abatement for the City of Lorain, Sen. Coley explained.

HB 34

PUBLIC NOTICES (<u>Hambley, S.</u>, <u>Ryan, S.</u>) To authorize certain state agencies, local governments, and other boards, commissions, and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail. (REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE (No testimony); 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Sen. Huffman offered an amendment accepted without objection to remove some sections pertaining to when electronic notices would not be allowed and to allow a recently elected public official to take public records training prior to taking office.

Another change allows a county prosecutor's office to represent port authorities, planning commissions and regional airport, Sen. Coley explained.

SB 202

OFFENDER RE-ENTRY (Bacon, K., O'Brien, S.) To require the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to establish a reentry program for all offenders released from prison who it intends to have reside in a halfway house or similar facility but who are not accepted by any such facility; to require the Adult Parole Authority to establish maximum work-load and case-load standards for its parole and field officers and have enough trained officers to comply with the standards; to require that GPS monitoring used for offenders released from prison under such monitoring specify restrictions, including inclusionary zones and necessary exclusionary zones; to require the Department to establish system requirements for GPS monitoring of such offenders by the Department or third-party contract administrators; to require the Department to operate a statewide database for law enforcement use containing specified information about such offenders; to require that thirdparty administrators for GPS monitoring under a new contract with the Department provide and use a law enforcement-accessible crime scene correlation program; and to name the act's provisions the Reagan Tokes Law. (CONTINUED (See separate story); 3rd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 2552

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING (McColley, R.) To establish a statewide policy on occupational regulation, to require standing committees of the General Assembly to periodically review occupational licensing boards regarding their sunset, and to require the Legislative Service Commission to perform assessments of occupational licensing bills and state regulation of occupations. (REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE; 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

A substitute version of the bill offered by <u>Sen. Joe Uecker</u> (R-Loveland) makes several changes, including adding factors to the list used in determining whether an occupational licensing board has demonstrated a public need. (<u>Comp doc</u>)

It also provides that occupational regulations that are created by adopting national standards used in at least 45 states are deemed to be narrowly tailored and the least restrictive. In written opponent testimony, Jarrod Clabaugh, executive director of the Ohio Society of Association Executives, called for lawmakers to seek additional input on the bill. John Graham, president and CEO of the Center for Association Leadership, called for the creation of a task force.

"We suggest that instead the legislature establish a task force to consider the problem of excessive occupational licensing and to develop ways to address that problem without weakening the protections to the public offered by governmental recognition of private certification programs," he wrote.

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the <u>committee's website</u> under June 26. Finance

HB 123

**LENDING LAWS** (Koehler, K., Ashford, M.) To modify the Short-Term Loan Act, to specify a minimum duration requirement for loans made under the Small Loan Law and Mortgage Loan Law, and to limit the authority of credit services organizations to broker extensions of credit for buyers. (**CONTINUED** (See separate story); 5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Transportation, Commerce & Workforce

HB 347

ROAD NAMING (<u>Kelly</u>, <u>B.</u>, <u>Dever</u>, <u>J.</u>) To designate a portion of I-71 in Hamilton County as the "Sonny L. Kim Memorial Highway." (REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE (No testimony); 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Chairman <u>Sen. Frank LaRose</u> (R-Hudson) said the substitute version allows the legislation for to be used as a vehicle for the naming of multiple memorial stretches of highway honoring people killed in the line of duty.

SB 293

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS (<u>Peterson</u>, <u>B.</u>, <u>McColley</u>, <u>R.</u>) To require agencies to reduce the number of regulatory restrictions. (REPORTED-SUBSTITUTE); 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

The committee accepted a substitute offered by <u>Sen. Rob McColley</u>, (R-Napoleon), who said the updated measure would apply the mandate to cut regulations by 30% statewide "at more of a macro level than the micro level."

Sen. McColley said his version would require every head of a cabinet-level department and every statewide elected official to inventory all regulations associated with their departments, as well as the commissions or agencies under them, and apply the 30% reduction "in the aggregate." He said the change was needed because some individual agencies or commissions might not have room to cut the percentage of regulations required by the original legislation.

"There are many state agencies that are already running pretty lean and already have very few rules," he said.

The substitute version also would give the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review the authority to approve or deny the cuts, he said.

Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) said he agrees with the goal but has concerns the legislature may be ceding two much authority under the proposal.

"We're asking (agencies) to get rid of regulations that are contrary to legislative intent," he said. "I would rather be the one to dictate what legislative intent is."

Sen. McColley said he thinks the substitute bill "actually strengthened the authority of JCARR," and therefore, the legislature.

The panel reported the bill along party lines after accepting the substitute version. Before accepting Sen. McColley's changes, the committee tabled a substitute bill offered by Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) that she said would remove the requirement that regulations be cut by 30% across the board in the state. Her version instead would have instead required state agencies to cut regulatory restrictions until a reduction "deemed sufficient by the state agency in consultation with (JCARR) has been achieved," she said. She said the substitute version also would have prohibited agencies from removing regulations required by federal law, among other changes.

"What we're trying to do is enlist both JCARR and the agencies in identifying those regulations or statutes that should be removed ... so that we can make informed decisions," she said.

Ahead of the adoption of the substitute legislation, Greg Lawson, research fellow with the Buckeye Institute, said the state "desperately needs" the effort to cut unneeded regulations to boost the economy. He said the state's licensing requirements are more restrictive than most states.

"Requiring appropriate education and training for physicians, healthcare providers, pilots, and truck drivers helps safeguard the general public in our hospitals and on our roads and runways," he said. "But the same cannot be said with respect to auctioneers, travel guides, and hairdressers-all currently subject to Ohio's byzantine and overly restrictive licensing requirements."

Mr. Lawson said efforts to rein in regulations could lead to employers hiring more workers and employees earning more.

"Beyond occupational licensing reform, Ohio must also reexamine government mandates that interfere with market-pricing and make goods artificially more expensive for businesses," he said. "Such interference ultimately leads to slower job growth as businesses curtail hiring and wages in order to offset the artificially higher costs created by the mandates.

## **SB 308 ELEVATOR LAW (Uecker, J., Yuko, K.)** To revise the Elevator Law. **(CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Sen. Joe Uecker (R-Loveland) said in sponsor testimony the measure, which has companion legislation (HB 236a) in the House, would "modernize" the state's elevator laws. "Taking elevators is a regular occurrence in our day to day lives and malfunctions can cause serious injuries to riders. SB308 seeks to codify industry standards and set licensure qualifications to help ensure the safety of both elevator riders and workers," he said. He said the measure would update the state's definition for elevators and create an Elevator Safety Review Board, among other changes.

<u>Sen. Kenny Yuko</u> (D-Richmond Hts.), the measure's other primary sponsor, said the bill also establishes new licensing and insurance requirements for elevator contractors, inspectors and mechanics.

"Our goal is to ensure the safety for the public and for those who work and install elevators. The best way for us to ensure a high level of safety is to ensure that all elevators are installed and maintained by licensed professionals."

ANTI-SEMITISM (Thompson, A., Greenspan, D.) To condemn the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement and increasing incidents of anti-Semitism. (REPORTED-AMENDED; 5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Chairman LaRose amended the bill with language condemning white nationalists and other hate groups.

Sen. Tavares offered a substitute resolution, which would have condemned attacks and discrimination against all minority groups by hate groups including white nationalists and neo-Nazis, and remove references to the boycott movement.

"We can't say people can't talk," she said. "That goes against who we are as a nation and a state."

The panel tabled her proposal, and Sen. Tavares subsequently cast the lone vote against reporting the measure.

Prior to the report, Connie Hammond, a member of United Methodists for Kairos Response and the Free Speech Coalition of Ohio, said the legislation unfairly conflates the Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions movement with anti-Semitism and could be seen as a form of censorship.

"The International BDS movement is not anti-Semitic," she said. "The call to BDS issued by 170 Palestinian civil society organizations asked the international community to stand for freedom, equality and justice."

Sen. LaRose said he rejects the idea that the measure constituted any kind of censorship. "There's nothing in here that restricts speech," he said.

#### Education

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Roegner, K.) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. (REPORTED-AMENDED (See separate story); 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

ACADEMIC YEAR (Manning, G.) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day. (Scheduled but not heard); 7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

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### Daily Activity Planner for Thursday, June 28

#### Legislative Committees

Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-7584), Rm. 313, 9 a.m.

- Behavioral Health Redesign Update from Barbara Sears, Director, Ohio Department of Medicaid and Emily Higgins, Chair, OAHP Behavioral Health Subcommittee
- PBM Report from Barbara Sears, Director, Ohio Department of Medicaid Joint Ohio College Affordability Committee (Chr. Wilson, S., 466-9739), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.
- Overview of strategies for preserving and improving the affordability of a college education in Ohio by the Ohio Association of Community Colleges and the Inter-University Council of Ohio

Joint Education Oversight Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Manning, G., 466-8150), North Hearing Rm., 11:30 a.m.

- Presentations by Connie Shriver (Coordinator of Career & Academic Readiness Education at the Mid-East Career and Technology Centers), Mary Murphy (Manager of Adult Success Initiatives at Lorain Community College), and Greg Harp (Vice President of Graduation Alliance) on Adult Graduation Pathways
- Presentations by the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services on Early Childhood Programs
- Update on progress of other research projects (tentative)

#### Agency Calendar

Civil Rights Commission, Lobby Mtg. Rm., 1st Fl., 30 E. Broad St., Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Elections Commission, Rm. East B., 31st Fl., 77 S. High St., Columbus, 10 a.m. Business Gateway Steering Committee, 30 East Broad Street, Room 2925, Columbus, 1 p.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

#### **Event Planner**

Rep. Brian Hill (R-Zanesville) golf outing fundraiser, Eaglesticks Golf Club, 2655 Maysville Pike, Zanesville, 9:30 a.m., (9:30 am registration; 10:30 am shotgun start; 4:30 pm barbeque. Brian D. Hill for State Representative)
Rep. Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland) & Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hts.) fundraiser, Lake Affect Studios, 1615 East 25th St., Cleveland, 5:30 p.m., (\$500, \$150, \$75, \$35 to Friends of Stephanie Howse, Friends of Janine Boyd)

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## Volume #87, Report #124 -- Wednesday, June 27, 2018 Lake Erie, Voting Machine Funding Among Bills Headed To Governor

A busy day of lawmaking Wednesday saw a wide variety of bills sent to Gov. John Kasich's desk, including long-sought funding for new voting equipment and money to fight harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie.

In total, the two chambers sent 19 bills to the governor, including a pair dealing with oversight for charter schools. (See separate story)

The voting machine measure (SB 135) appropriates \$114.5 million to buy new equipment. The House had previously passed it, and the Senate voted 31-1 in to concur with a House amendment that updated the fiscal year in the language.

"We've had machines that in many cases are 15 years old," sponsor Sen. Frank LaRose (R-Hudson) said. "Our county boards of elections and folks all throughout Ohio are very excited about the prospect that maybe sometime this winter or next spring there may be a truck showing up with new voting machines."

"It's time that we got this done," Sen. LaRose, the Republican nominee for secretary of state, continued. "This is something we've been talking about for a while."

Rep. Kathleen Clyde (D-Kent), the Democratic nominee for secretary of state, touted the passage in a statement.

"Ohio has been in desperate need of voting system upgrades to meet the elections cybersecurity challenges we face today and to modernize our aging machinery," she said. "I am happy to see our boards of elections finally getting the resources they deserve after years of state budget cuts to local government funds. I was happy to support this bipartisan bill and will continue to ensure our counties are prepared for every elections challenge."

The Lake Erie measure (SB 299) began as a way to identify and financially support projects to combat harmful algal blooms. Among other provisions, it appropriates \$3.5 million in General Revenue Fund dollars to the Department of Agriculture for soil and water conservation districts and \$20 million to the Soil and Water Phosphorus Program.

The measure became a vehicle for spending-related amendments in the House Finance Committee Tuesday, but it collected only a few changes, making it more of a "modest decorated wreath" than a true "Christmas tree bill," as explained Wednesday by sponsoring Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green).

Those amendments included \$7.1 million in disaster funding for 18 counties that sustained widespread flooding earlier this year. Other House-added items include \$1 million to boost broadband expansion efforts and \$1.5 million for the National Guard Scholarship. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 26, 2018)

It cleared the lower chamber in a unanimous vote after picking up an LSC technical amendment on the floor. The Senate then followed suit, approving the item 29-0.

Rep. Steven Ardnt (R-Port Clinton), who sponsored companion legislation in the House, said the measure will go a long way toward reducing algal blooms in Lake Erie.

"This particular bill is really something that is extremely critical," he said.

Sen. Gardner called the bill a "classic example" of legislation in action given its bipartisan nature.

Both chambers accepted a conference report on a measure (SB 1 ) to toughen penalties for fentanyl traffickers.

The House approved the conference committee report 59-10, with Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) calling it a "very small change" in that it shifts the burden of proof to the prosecution to show a defendant knew of a fentanyl-related compound in his or her possession.

In the Senate, the vote was 31-1, with Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) the only member opposed.

Sen. Skindell said the proposal doesn't just target traffickers, but also affects drug users. He also voiced concerns with how the state considers an aggregate amount of fentanyl, even if a little bit of fentanyl is mixed with a much greater amount of another drug.

"It not only throws the drug traffickers in jail, it throws the small users in jail," he said.

Sen. LaRose, the measure's sponsor, said the user would need to have reason to know it contained fentanyl to be charged.

"We did what we could to make sure that we truly are ensnaring the traffickers and not the addicts," he said. "We rely on reasonable prosecutors. We rely on reasonable judges and juries to do the work that they do."

A proposal initially designed to eliminate the need for a special election when only one candidate is on the ballot (HB 1822) cleared the Senate unanimously but faced more opposition later in the evening when the House voted 67-22 to concur.

The dissent hinged on a provision added earlier in the day that allows some local elected officials to serve on the board of trustees of a convention and visitors' bureau. (See committee listing)

Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.) said the measure goes against an advisory opinion issued by the attorney general's office.

"The reason for that conflict is quite obvious," he said.

Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville) said if a conflict does exist, the public official can abstain from voting on a matter.

The bill also received opposition from Rep. Tom Brinkman (R-Cincinnati) who said in light of recent event, lawmakers should do all they can to avoid any hint of impropriety.

A measure (SB 66) to provide judges with more discretion in criminal sentencing also cleared both chambers.

Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville), who ushered the bill through the House Criminal Justice Committee, called the measure a smart on crime bill. He also touted several of the bill's provisions, including one that allows for expanded record sealing.

"This is something that will get people back to work," he said.

Before voting 84-2 to move the bill back to the upper chamber, an amendment offered by Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) was accepted to make it clear that the number of felonies that can be sealed is five with an unlimited number of misdemeanors.

Rep. Jay Edwards (R-Nelsonville) and Rep. Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster) cast the lone "no" votes.

The Senate voted 29-0 to approve the issue, with Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) and Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) both urging support.

Sen. Eklund specifically pointed out a change that prevents those who have more than five felonies from pursuing the sealing of records. Although it runs somewhat contrary to the Senate's effort, Sen. Eklund said the change such a person would pursue that round "is slim."

"Notwithstanding that, I certainly think the amendments are salutary...and we've come to something that will make Ohio a more just place to live," he said.

Sen. Tavares too said she believes "the integrity and the strength of the legislation remains. We are trying to do what's fair and what's right and we really believe rehabilitation should be taken seriously."

Legislation (HB 318a) initially designed to deal with qualification for school resource officers picked up several changes during its journey through the legislature, including having a measure (SB 246a) prohibiting expulsion and suspension of young students rolled into it while in the upper chamber.

"Suspending a six-year-old child does absolutely nothing to help them," Rep. Sarah LaTourette (R-Chagrin Falls).

It cleared the lower chamber in a 69-20 vote, with Rep. Ron Hood (R-Ashville) speaking in opposition.

"This did not get vetted in committee the way it properly needed," he said.

A bill to add prongs to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review process cleared the House in a 73-19 vote after Rep. Dan Ramos (R-Lorain) raised concerns that the changes could make the body more partisan.

"It is not a committee where partisanship has come in to play," he said.

Other items sent to the governor included legislation to:

- Allow restaurants to let patrons to have dogs on outdoor patios (HB 263).
- Regulate credit and debit card use by political subdivisions and make other changes to how finances are handled by local governments (HB 312).
- Create a six-month pilot program to reduce driver's license reinstatement fees (HB 336<sup>22</sup>).
- Designate roads after first responders and military personnel killed in the line of duty (HB 347<sup>22</sup>).
- Waive the concealed carry license fee for active members of the armed forces and retired and honorably discharged veterans (SB 812).
- Require drivers to move over when passing waste collection vehicles (SB 1272).
- Provide a legal safe harbor for companies that enact cybersecurity protections (SB 220a).
- Boost the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review's authority to clamp down on informal rulemaking among executive agencies (SB 221

  ).
- Create more transparency in regional councils of government (SB 239a).

- Waive the concealed carry license fee for active members of the armed services and retired and honorably discharged veterans (SB 81).
- Create an enhanced penalty for distracted driving (HB 95a).
- Overhaul the law relating to embalmers, crematory operators and cemeteries (HB 168a).

## Bills On Religion, Pharmacy Benefit Managers Among Dozens Backed By House

Legislation cited as "protecting" the religious beliefs of pastors and students, and a bill to limit charges from pharmacy benefit managers were among the slew of proposals receiving the House's stamp of approval during a marathon session Wednesday.

Also among the 31 measures passed in the first part of the session were a number of Senate bills that now advance to the desk of Gov. John Kasich thanks to Senate concurrence votes later in the day. The chamber also approved a conference committee report on a measure to boost penalties for drug trafficking and possession. (See separate story)

Regarding the religion-related legislation, both measures received substantial pushback from Democrats who contend they will open the door for discrimination.

The so-called Pastor Protection Act (HB 36a) shields faith leaders, societies and others from civil repercussions should they refuse to solemnize marriage outside their beliefs. The plan picked up a floor amendment from Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) providing that in the event of a conflict between the bill and current public accommodations law, the legislation will take precedent.

Rep. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) made a motion to lay the amendment on the table, which was turned back by Republicans. Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cieveland Hts.) also moved to amend the item, but her motion was ruled out of order following the adoption of Rep. Seitz's change.

Sponsor Rep. Nino Vitale (R-Urbana) reiterated his belief the legislation does not target LGBTQ citizens. He painted it as an attempt to relieve the "tension" between contrasting beliefs and assure faith leaders existing protections under the Constitution will remain.

"This is not a sword," Rep. Vitale said. "This is intended to be a shield and protect everyone's rights."

But Rep. Boyd argued the legislation's scope is too broad in that it does not limit its provisions to religious groups or pastors.

"It is in essence saying that proprietors of property or services that rent to the public at large can turn away members of the LGBTQ community," she said, before the chamber endorsed the measure 59-29.

Similarly, the chamber voted 62-20 for a plan (HB 428) from Rep. Sarah LaTourette (R-Chagrin Falls) and Rep. Tim Ginter (R-Salem) that states students should be permitted to conduct religious expression and activities in schools in the same manner students may conduct secular activity or expression.

Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid) moved to amend the bill with language he said would label head coverings as permitted religious attire.

Rep. Ginter, however, voiced reservations, saying the change would open up "a pathway that is not the intention of this bill. There is no specificity in this bill toward any religion and that is purposeful." The GOP-dominated chamber as a whole agreed, turning away the proposed tweak 56-32.

Several Democrats spoke against the bill, including Rep. Ramos, who said the legislation is so broad it would permit shirts with messaging stating LGBTQ youth will go to hell or that Jesus is not real, or targeting specific faiths. To that, Rep. Ginter replied the school still has the authority to ban obscene or distracting clothing or activities.

Among other bills, the pharmacy legislation (HB 479ﷺ) - from Rep. Scott Lipps (R-Franklin) and Rep. Thomas West (D-Canton) - requires patients to be informed of affordable prescription options. And it limits PBMs, health plans or other administrators to charging no more than what an individual would pay for a drug were it purchased without coverage.

"For too long, PBMs have used predatory practices to target consumers and independent pharmacies," Rep. Lipps said. "I am proud Ohio is taking a lead role to end these deceiving practices, while improving transparency and lowering out-of-pocket drug costs."

Added Rep. West: "Today is a happy day here in Ohio because lower prescription drug prices are on their way."

Several pieces of legislation pertained to laws related to sexual activity, including proposals prohibiting sexting by persons under 19 years of age (HB 355a) and the nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images (HB 497a) or "revenge porn." Those measures passed unanimously - 85-0 and 81-0 respectively.

So too did legislation (HB 92) requiring an offender who knowingly commits public indecency to be viewed by a minor for the purpose of sexual gratification to register as a Tier 1 sex offender if ordered by a judge (80-0).

Legislation (HB 511) establishing 18 as the age at which a person can marry was also approved with wide support (78-0). The proposal provides an exception for a 17-year-old

with the consent of a juvenile court if the other spouse-to-be is not more than four years older.

"We do not allow minors to vote, to buy cigarettes or alcohol, to rent cars or apartments or to enter into other contracts yet we allow them to (marry) - one of the most important and impactful decisions of their young lives," said Rep. Laura Lanese (R-Grove City), lead cosponsor along with Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake).

Democrats also attempted to amend a plan (HB 502) from Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills) that requires educators to take in-service training on youth suicide prevention every two years. Rep. Catherine Ingram (D-Cincinnati) sought to expand the bill to cover charter schools but the amendment was tabled 44-39 before the bill advanced 82-0.

The chamber also approved legislation:

- Granting civil immunity to medical providers and emergency medical technicians operating after a disaster (HB 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>).
- Prohibiting certain terms from appearing in health care contracts between vision care providers and a contracting entity and establishing new disclosure requirements (HB 156).
- Establishing a regional kinship care navigator program (HB 126).
- Licensing home inspectors via the proposed Home Inspector Board (HB 211
- Designating the month of April as "Respect Your Date Month" and requiring higher education institutions to adopt a policy regarding dating and domestic violence (HB 240). The chamber approved an emergency clause 75-6.
- Including search and rescue dogs and horses in the prohibition against assaulting or harassing a police animal (HB 349).
- Prohibiting consumer credit reporting agencies from charging a fee to freeze a consumer's credit report or to remove or temporarily lift a freeze (HB 386).
- Exempting police body camera and dashboard footage from public record laws under certain circumstances, such as if it depicts the identity of a child or the victim of a sex crime (HB 425).
- Authorizing a nonrefundable insurance company tax credit for contributing capital for transformational mixed use development construction (HB 469<sup>22</sup>).
- Requiring the Department of Agriculture to regulate multi-parcel auctions (HB 4803).

- Enacting a myriad of township changes including: increasing the obligations a
  board of township trustees may authorize its officers to incur, permitting a
  township to require reimbursement of emergency services levy revenue
  foregone because of the creation of a tax increment financing incentive district,
  and more (HB 500).
- Requiring the development and adoption of a new framework for teacher and administrator evaluations (HB 540).
- Permitting county prosecutors to enter into contract with regional airport authorities, port authorities or a regional planning commission as a legal adviser (HB 543a).
- Requiring the Public Employees Retirement System Board to grant a full year of service credit to qualified members employed as nonteaching school employees of a county board of development disabilities (HB 572).
- Revising the probate process through various changes including disqualifying a person convicted of involuntary manslaughter from benefiting from the victim's death (HB 595<sup>22</sup>).

#### Senate Passes Measures Focused On Reducing Regulations

A pair of legislative efforts to rein in regulations cleared the Senate Wednesday, with Republicans saying the proposals would make life easier for businesses.

Democrats said the two measures were arbitrary efforts to reduce agency rules that don't get at the issue of targeting unneeded regulations and could reduce important oversight.

One of the items (SB 293) cleared the Senate Transportation, Commerce and Workforce Committee earlier Wednesday after the panel replaced it with a substitute version to apply the regulation-cutting mandate more broadly across state departments, rather than to individual agencies. (See committee listing)

As a result of the changes, the legislation would require departments overall to cut regulations by 30%, sponsor Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) said. It would also create a website where individuals and businesses can report burdensome regulations to the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

"We need to know how many restrictions we have, we need to systematically review them, and we need to revisit the rules that are unnecessary," Sen. Peterson said.

Majority Republicans tabled an amendment from Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) that would have eliminated the 30% reduction requirement.

"This amendment calls for them to reduce restrictions without placing the arbitrary requirement," she said. "This amendment calls on state agencies to inventory what regulations exist."

Sen. Peterson said the amendment was unnecessary because JCARR can already grant departments exemptions for certain rules.

Lawmakers can also work to reduce regulations by avoiding situations where legislation leaves the details to be sorted out by agencies, said Sen. Lou Terhar (R-Cincinnati).

"The real issue here is how many things do we and our predecessors punt on and let it go to an agency rather than making a decision," he said.

Sometimes that's appropriate, said Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon).

"Sometimes it's an acknowledgement or a willingness to acknowledge that there are experts in the administration of the government" with more expertise than lawmakers, he said.

The measure passed along party lines.

The other effort targeting regulations (SB 255) focused on occupational licensing. Sponsor Sen. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) said it would create a process to review the state's occupational licensing requirements every five years.

"Frankly it's costing Ohioans the ability to earn a living and it's costing Ohioans the opportunity to contribute to our economy," he said of excessive licensing requirements.

Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) said lawmakers should consider issues with occupational licenses and fix them rather than creating a complicated process to routinely review the need for them.

Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) said he thought the government has gotten-"too big, too unwieldy."

"Too much of our authority has been usurped or given away over the years by legislators who thought it was easier to punt rulemaking authority," he said.

The measure passed 24-8.

The chamber unanimously passed a measure (SB 119a), known as Daniel's Law, intended to ensure patients using naltrexone, a medication-assisted treatment also known as Vivitrol, can get an emergency dose from a pharmacy in certain emergency situations.

"When in a pinch, patients will have access to every pharmacy in the state of Ohio to act as a trampoline back into the system when the system fails," sponsor Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) said.

Also advancing in the chamber were measures to:

- Provide a definition for an insurance rating agency (SB 273<sup>33</sup>).
- Modify controlled substances laws with the Board of Pharmacy, including placing the list of controlled substances in rule rather than statute (SB 229<sup>32</sup>).
- Urge Congress to support the creation of the Appalachian storage hub (SCR 21
- Call on Congress to end certain mandates and emphasize the importance of federalism and the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment (SCR 23<sup>th</sup>), which passed 25-7.

# Bills Amended To Enhance Online School Oversight Head To Governor

The House and Senate on Wednesday approved separate measures that were amended this week to include multiple e-school reforms and sent them to Gov. John Kasich for his signature.

While Rep. Keith Faber (R-Celina) and Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) introduced legislation (HB 707) on the topic last week, lawmakers quickly sought alternative pathways to get some of its provisions passed sooner rather than later. The actions by the chambers achieve a goal set Speaker Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) of pushing forward with legislation aimed at improving the state's online schools ahead of summer recess. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 25, 2018)

Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering), chairwoman of the Senate Education Committee said lawmakers from both chambers came to an agreement ahead of Wednesday's session that certain portions from the measure would be split among a bill (HB 872) under consideration in the Senate and another (SB 2162) under consideration in the House.

"You really have to look at these two bills together," she said.

The original intent of HB 87 was to clarify that funding must be returned to local school districts when an audit of a charter school leads to a finding for recovery, while SB216 is an overhaul measure that makes dozens of changes to the state's K-12 education system.

The upper chamber passed HB 87 by a vote of 30-2 with Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) and Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) voting in opposition. The House concurred in Senate amendments by a vote of 70-22.

The Senate Education Committee earlier in the day amended HB 87 to create a "safe harbor" for schools that grew by 20% from taking in former Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow students from certain accountability measures, including closure. The House Education & Career Readiness Committee on Tuesday accepted a similar amendment to SB 216 that set the threshold at for the threshold for the safe harbor at 10%. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 26, 2018)

Sen. Schiavoni said he cast his vote against the measure because the safe harbor provision could shield poorly performing schools from accountability.

"My concern is that by putting an amendment like this in the bill we might be creating another ECOT," he said.

Sen. Lehner said another amendment passed in the Senate committee clarifies that the safe harbor will not protect schools that would have faced closure before considering the performance of students taken in from the now-shuttered e-school.

"We are not excusing bad performance of any school," she said.

Sen. Lehner said another Senate amendment to HB 87 dealing with e-schools would require the superintendent of public instruction to set guidelines for activity-tracking software to be used by online charter schools.

Another amendment "would remove a significant conflict of interest" regarding the state auditor's office and payments by online schools, she said.

"Currently, amounts payable may be reduced according to policies determined both by the superintendent of public instruction and the auditor of state," she said. "This amendment will change the statute to require the (superintendent) to establish these policies in consultation with the (auditor) instead, so that the auditor is not put in a position to establish policies they may later audit."

Sen. Lehner said other amendments adopted by her committee that are not focused on e-schools would:

- Give school districts an additional year to put a substitute levy on the ballot.
- Clarify that only a superintendent or school board president can sign contracts and other employment documents related to the district's treasurer or his or her family members.
- Allow school districts and other public employers to "collectively contract for health clinic services."

The committee also adopted an amendment Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green) said would prohibit the state from requiring local school boards to submit five-year

financial forecast before Nov. 30. The provision mirrors one added to SB 216 in committee Tuesday.

The House passed SB 216 by a vote of 60-32 after accepting two amendments. The Senate concurred in House amendments by a vote of 28-1 with Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo) in opposition.

Rep. Andy Brenner's (R-Powell) amendment required a study of school takeovers be sent to the Joint Education Oversight Committee for further review after its completion. The House accepted the amendment by a vote of 62-28.

A floor amendment offered by Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) and accepted by a vote of 61-28 stripped a provision from the law that would have revised the state's standard for what an "excessively absent" student is by excluding excused absences. Under existing law, a student is "excessively absent" when they miss 38 or more hours in a month or 65 or more hours in a year whether the absences were excused or not.

The House Education & Career Readiness Committee on Tuesday reported SB 216 along party lines after accepting several amendments, including one with multiple provisions aimed at e-school reform. The amendment was inspired by HB 707, which in turn took cues from recommendations offered by Auditor Dave Yost.

The amendment would require the superintendent of public instruction to craft recommended definitions for the state to adopt regarding e-school enrollment and participation and create a committee to study the potential of student-performance, among other provisions.

Sen. Lehner said she views the creation of the committee as one of the most important provisions in the two pieces of legislation.

"The study committee is the most important part of that because that's going to (lead to) more substantive long-term reforms than some of the more minor (provisions)," she said.

Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) said the online school provisions the committee added to SB 216 need more vetting, but were being rushed into law to provide "political cover" for Republicans in the wake of the closure of the ECOT. After ECOT shut its doors in January, Auditor Yost referred his office's audit of the school for potential prosecution. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 10, 2018)

"I'm sorry to say this bill has been hijacked," she said.

She was gaveled out of order by Speaker Smith when she likened ECOT's funding, which is the subject of clawback efforts by the state, to an ATM for Republican campaign committees.

The panel and later the full Senate rejected an amendment offered by Sen. Schiavoni that would have set additional guidelines for e-schools. He said the change would have

required an in-person parent teacher conference to be scheduled if a student doesn't log in for 10 days and the addition of disclaimers on e-school advertisements noting if they were paid for with public money and what grades the school had received from the state, among other changes.

"We have to have additional accountability and transparency," he said.

Sen. Lehner opposed the amendment but said she agreed with Sen. Schiavoni that the state's work on updating standards for online schools is not done.

The Senate also tabled an amendment offered by Sen. Schiavoni that would have extended eased graduation requirements put in place for the class of 2018 for the next two school years. The House Education & Career Readiness Committee rejected an amendment with the same effect offered by Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron) Tuesday.

Before passing SB 216, the House tabled an amendment offered by Rep. Galonski that would have appointed a special investigator in the ECOT case.

Rep. Brenner said he viewed the amendment as premature because ECOT still has an appeal before the Ohio Supreme Court related to purported overpayments the State Board of Education voted to claw back from the school, leading to its closure.

Democrats later ripped majority Republicans for refusing to add additional accountability provisions to the bill, saying it gives a "free pass to Ohio's out-of-control charter schools" and elected officials.

"This is a politically motivated bill to give the same GOP politicians who used ECOT and charter school sponsors to bankroll their campaigns a free pass on taking responsibility for the mess they created," Rep. Galonski said.

Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima), SB 216's primary sponsor, said crafting and passing the substantial bill involved a lot of give and take among lawmakers and interested parties.

He listed the House's changes, saying be did not agree with all of them but that the bill retains the goal that superintendents had when they suggested the package to him several months ago - that is, eliminating unnecessary and burdensome regulations.

"This is a product of about 15 months-worth of work with a lot of good things in it," he said.

State Auditor Dave Yost issued a statement Wednesday evening welcoming passage of the measures.

"The legislation approved by the General Assembly today addresses some of the weaknesses my office has pointed out for years that limited the state's ability to demand full accountability from online schools and operators," he said. "While we were not

successful in gaining passage of all reforms we believe are needed, these changes will make a significant difference."

# Senate Panel Delays Vote On Energy Standards, Wind Setback Bill

A Senate committee Wednesday held off on a potential vote on controversial legislation to lower the renewable and energy efficiency standards, with lead negotiators telling interested parties they are "very close" to a final product.

The closely-watched measure (HB 114 ) was scheduled for its eighth hearing before the Senate Energy & Natural Resources and marked for possible amendments and a vote.

But the proposal was ultimately not heard, with Chairman Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) and Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) instead briefing stakeholders in attendance of their progress on the bill and promising "the bill's not dead."

"It's closer (to passing) than it's been for a while," Chairman Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) said in an interview.

The measure began as a House effort to render the standards voluntary and expand the mercantile opt-out. That followed Gov. John Kasich's 2016 veto of a similar, but less far-reaching measure (HB554, 131st General Assembly).

Senators in May then accepted a substitute version that restored the mandatory nature of the standards, although it still lowers the renewable standards to 8.5% by 2022 instead of current law's 12.5% by 2026 and the efficiency standards to 17.2% by 2026 instead of the current 22.2% by 2027. It also loosens wind setback restrictions that advocates accused of stifling the industry - a prospect House leaders have expressed reluctant to accept in the past. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 16, 2018)

More changes are likely, as the lawmakers court support within their caucus and among stakeholders. Sen. Beagle said they're still sorting through feedback following the most recent changes - including those related to the mercantile opt-out, the wind setbacks and energy efficiency benchmarks.

"At this point, anytime you amend something everything's kind of tight so if we move a little bit here we need to understand what the ramifications are over there and that's just taking time," Sen. Beagle said. "We want to make sure we get this right. It's been an issue we've been talking about for a long time and it's been in the chamber a while. We'd rather take some time to make sure we get the best bill we can before we send it over to the House."

Sen. Balderson said talks continue with the Kasich administration over the renewable standards proposed by the current bill.

"The administration is aware of our number," he said. "While they are not satisfied with it, we continue to have positive discussions on a number of other areas we can all agree upon."

A Kasich spokesman declined to comment on the pending legislation.

At the same time, both said they haven't gone out of their way to keep their House counterparts in the loop on discussions. Although the legislation in its current form is likely to face a steeper climb in the lower chamber, the senators said their principal concern is mustering up enough support within their own caucus.

"We're really kind of focused on making sure we have enough votes in the Senate," Sen. Beagle said. "We're really focused on getting a product we can get out hopefully on a bipartisan basis and that's tough enough."

Added Sen. Balderson: "Once we have our numbers here that we need in the Senate, then we'll focus on the House. They're aware...so there's no reason for (Sen. Beagle) and I to be sitting-down in front of them."

# Proposed Regulations Inspired By State Fair Ride Death Get Initial Hearing

Nearly a year removed from a thrill ride breakdown at the Ohio State Fair that killed 18-year-old Tyler Jarrell and injured several others, the House took up legislation to tighten regulation of inspections overseen by the Department of Agriculture.

Sponsored by Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) and Rep. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus), the measure would revise current safety inspection standards, define the qualifications for inspectors, and require owners to maintain current records for all their amusement rides.

Rep. Patterson told members of the House Agriculture & Rural Development Committee that the measure, while inspired by the tragedy, is about looking ahead "to better ensure the safety of Ohioans for years to come by revisiting current legislation to provide a more robust approach to ride safety and inspection."

The sponsors pointed out that while the rides have become more prevalent, diverse and complicated over the years, the number of Ohio inspectors has remained fairly constant.

Rep. Hughes said the bill focuses on ride inspections in two ways.

"First, it expands the Director of Agriculture's rule-making authority regarding amusement ride safety. Specifically, it requires a minimum number of inspectors be assigned to inspect a ride, ensuring that number is reasonable and adequate given the size, complexity, and nature of the ride," he said. "Second, it requires the Director to adopt the standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials, or any other equivalent standards, in whole. Current law does not require the Director to adopt these standards, neither in whole or part."

The measure also addresses the qualifications for newly hired inspectors, Rep. Hughes said. "The bill requires the Director, when employing a new Chief Inspector or an additional amusement ride inspector, to give preference to individuals who are registered professional engineers. If no registered professional engineer seeks employment as an inspector, the Director must give preference to individuals who have been issued a level one or higher inspector certification from the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials."

Those restrictions would be forward-looking and not impact those currently employed as inspectors, he said.

The bill would retain the current law requirement that the ODA director provide necessary training for inspectors to administer and enforce the laws governing amusement ride safety. "Similarly, the bill still allows the director to appoint or contract other persons to perform inspections of amusement rides, provided that they meet the qualifications for inspectors and are not owners, or employees of any amusement ride subject to inspection," Rep. Hughes said.

The record-keeping mandates in the bill would apply to electronic manuals for each amusement ride that is inspected in Ohio, if available, and the ODA director may require the owner to also include "detailed written descriptions or photographs of all maintenance, repairs, and inspections in the record," Mr. Hughes said.

"Finally, HB631 prohibits ride owners from knowingly failing to keep a record or knowingly failing to make records available to the Department or ride inspector, and it imposes a fine of \$100 to \$500 for a violation of the prohibition. While current law requires an owner to keep records and make them available for inspection, it does not establish a specific penalty for failure to do so," he concluded.

Asked about the extent of the potential fines, Rep. Patterson said they could apply to every ride that's out of compliance or it could depend on the circumstances. He said the sponsors wanted to leave some discretion for ODA to develop more specific guidelines under the bill.

"We don't want the money," Rep. Hughes added. "We want them to be safe."

Rep. Kyle Koehler (R-Springfield) questioned whether the provisions would have prevented last year's failure of the Fire Ball ride.

"It definitely would have helped the situation, but what we're trying to do is prevent another occurrence of this in the future," Mr. Patterson said.

The sponsor told Rep. James Hoops (R-Napoleon) that the requirements would apply to all rides operated in the state, including those at county fairs and other events.

Chairman Rep. Brian Hill (R-Zanesville) raised the issue of funding for additional inspection duties and also noted that a review of the incident did not result in any punitive actions against state inspectors.

Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) said consideration must be given to ODA's budget if the bill is enacted.

Mr. Hughes said there have been communications with the agency regarding the proposals and further meetings with the agency are planned.

ODA spokesman Mark Bruce said the agency typically doesn't comment on pending legislation.

"The department has had discussions about possible ways to strengthen Ohio's already robust amusement ride safety program," he said in an email.

# High Court Strikes Down 'Agency Fees' For Public Sector Unions; Kennedy Announces Retirement

Organized labor was dealt a major blow Wednesday by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In a highly anticipated decision, the court in a 5-4 ruling held that non-union workers cannot be forced to pay fees to public sector unions.

Writing for the majority, Justice Samuel Alito found the requirement that non-union employees pay "agency fees" to the collective bargaining unit runs afoul of free speech protections.

"This procedure violates the First Amendment and cannot continue," Justice Alito wrote. "Neither an agency fee nor any other payment to the union may be deducted from a nonmember's wages, nor may any other attempt be made to collect such a payment, unless the employee affirmatively consents to pay. By agreeing to pay, nonmembers are waiving their First Amendment rights, and such a waiver-cannot be presumed."

He was joined in his opinion by Chief Justice John Roberts, Justice Clarence Thomas, Justice Neil Gorsuch and Justice Anthony Kennedy, considered the swing vote on the court and who announced his retirement Wednesday.

The decision overturns a 1977 high court ruling that upheld the practice as constitutional.

"We recognize that the loss of payments from nonmembers may cause unions to experience unpleasant transition costs in the short term, and may require unions to make adjustments in order to attract and retain members. But we must weigh these disadvantages against the considerable windfall that unions have received under *Abood* for the past 41 years," Justice Alito wrote.

"It is hard to estimate how many billions of dollars have been taken from nonmembers and transferred to public-sector unions in violation of the First Amendment. Those unconstitutional exactions cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely."

Statements for and against the decision poured in swiftly.

Ohio Republicans were largely silent on the ruling. However, the Buckeye Institute cheered the decision.

"The Supreme Court today in *Janus v. AFSCME* announced its basic rule of human decency and common sense: consent matters - and hardworking public-sector workers can no longer be forced to pay for political speech or other activities without their affirmative consent," President and CEO Robert Alt said in a statement.

The American Legislative Exchange Council also hailed the ruling.

"Today's Janus decision overturns a precedent set 41 years ago. This will allow workers to keep their pay, they will no longer be forced to pay fees that support a union's collective bargaining efforts and administrative work," said Robert Ordway, Director of the Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development Task Force at ALEC.

The court's liberal justices dissented in the decision, with Justice Elena Kagan writing that the majority's holding will lead to "a collective action problem of nightmarish proportions."

Among the repercussions of the decision, she predicted that it will lead to a decline in public sector unionization.

"Everyone - not just those who oppose the union, but also those who back it - has an economic incentive to withhold dues; only altruism or loyalty - as against financial self-interest - can explain why an employee would pay the union for its services," she wrote in a dissent joined by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Justice Stephen Breyer and Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

She also accused the majority of "weaponizing the First Amendment, in a way that unleashes judges, now and in the future, to intervene in economic and regulatory policy."

Several Democratic lawmakers blasted the decision in statements, as did unions. Jay McDonald, president of the Ohio Fraternal Order of Police, said the group is "confident that our membership understands the value of belonging to the FOP and we will continue to work hard to keep their trust."

Ohio AFL-CIO President Tim Burga said "billionaires and corporate special interests that have manipulated our system of justice have succeeded in getting the highest court in the land to do their bidding."

The Ohio Federation of Teachers and the Ohio Education Association also spoke out. OFT President Melissa Cropper said the decision will lead to greater activism among her members.

"This decision today is a momentary triumph for the wealthy special interests who backed this lawsuit," she said. "But the voices of working people will not go unheard. And unions, such as ours, remain the best way to make sure decision-makers - at work or in the halls of government - are listening."

The Ohio Civil Service Employees Association said the decision "will only further rig the economy in favor of the wealthy and corporate interests."

OAPSE Executive Director Joe Rugola called the decision political.

"Justice Alito even says in his opinion that unions are powerful and get things done for our members," he said. "That's what the anti-union forces are afraid of: that our collective voice on behalf of workers will mean better pay and benefits for working people."

**Kennedy Retirement:** Justice Kennedy announced his retirement Wednesday, paving the way for Republicans to move the court in a decidedly rightward direction, a fact that was not overlooked by many, including Ohio Right to Life, which predicted the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*.

"Moments like these are why pro-life Americans elected President Donald Trump," President Mike Gonidakis said. "He has the historic opportunity to add a justice who will serve as the fifth pro-life vote on the court. Ohio Right to Life's goal has always been to overturn *Roe v. Wade* and to see the end of abortion, which has killed 60 million American children in the last 45 years."

NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio Executive Director Kellie Copeland expressed concern that the next right-leaning appointee would be in a position to overturn the "constitutional right to access abortion."

"Americans have had their rights stripped away by the US Supreme Court, thanks in part to a stolen seat that should have been filled by President Barack Obama," she said. "Women, union members, and immigrants all were harmed by decisions handed down just this week. We need a court that protects and respects rights, not one that pushes the political agenda of Donald Trump, Mike Pence and their ultra conservative cronies."

U.S. Rep. Bill Johnson (R-Marietta) encouraged his upper chamber colleagues to act quickly on filling the court opening.

"I encourage President Trump to nominate a qualified jurist from the list of potential Supreme Court judges he unveiled during his presidential campaign - someone who will interpret the Constitution as written, rather than legislating from the bench," he said.

"Whoever ends up filling this vacancy will play a major role in the future of the high court."

Justice Kennedy plans to step down at the end of July, and U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) said he plans to hold a vote on a replacement this fall.

The White House in a statement provided no timeline on choosing the justice's successor and instead focused on his service.

"A Californian - like the president who appointed him - Justice Kennedy is a true man of letters," the statement read. "During his tenure on the court, he authored landmark opinions in every significant area of constitutional law, most notably on equal protection under the law, the separation of powers, and the First Amendment's guarantees of freedom of speech and religion."

# Chairman: Senate Looking For Balance With Payday Lending Measure

Two weeks in the Senate wasn't enough time to resolve the complex issues surrounding payday lending law revisions, and interested parties will keep talking on a compromise, a key lawmaker guiding the process said Wednesday.

Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-N. Canton) made the comments following a meeting of the Senate Finance Committee, which he chairs. The panel heard some additional testimony before a surprise attempt by the ranking minority member to move it forward.

The chairman previous said he didn't intend to take any amendments or call a vote on the proposal (HB 123) this week, but Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) made a motion to report the measure before the meeting could be adjourned.

After committee members were called back from other meetings, majority Republicans voted on party lines to table Sen. Skindell's motion.

Sen. Oelslager said he and many members of the committee are still unsure what direction they would like to see the bill go, whether that entails the way it's written, or with some or all of the recommendations made by Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima). (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 26, 2018)

"We also want to make sure that the interested parties have a chance to keep talking," he said after the meeting. "It's a very complicated issue. We want to make sure there's a balance between the person offering the loan and the person taking out the loan."

Sen. Skindell's move came after Nick Bourke, director of consumer finance for the Pew Charitable Trusts, asked senators to advance the proposal as written.

"I urge this committee to take a vote," he said. "Vote on HB123 as passed by the House. Or make a few sensible amendments to HB123 as we've discussed and vote on that. Even if it fails, we will know where this process stands."

Mr. Bourke, who has testified several times on the measure, told the committee they have three options in front of them: an overhaul of regulations such as HB123, the complete elimination of high-interest lending, and the status quo.

The proposals from Sen. Huffman, he said, would preserve the status quo.

"It is not reform because it does not solve the problems for consumers and it would cost the small number of payday lenders who enjoy the status quo today virtually nothing," he said.

Sen. Oelslager asked if the proposal is worse than the current law for lenders, and Mr. Bourke said it would have no change.

Mr. Bourke also said lawmakers could propose to ban high-interest loans entirely.

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) said the 2008 regulation constituted an attempt to ban high-interest loans.

"Ten years ago, when the legislature and then the voters of Ohio dealt with the legislation, that was a ban bill in the state of Ohio," he said. "Is the House-passed version of HB123 a ban bill?"

Mr. Bourke said it's a reform effort and would still allow companies to operate.

"I've spoken with companies that used to operate in Ohio before 2008 that left Ohio because they did not want to operate in a loophole," he said.

The panel also heard from Ashish Gandhi, owner of Cash Plus Silverton, who praised Sen. Huffman's plan.

"I believe that Senator Huffman's plan was very well thought out and mathematically intelligent," he wrote. "He was magically able to give all sides what they were asking for. His plan lowers the APR that critics insisted on. His plan lowers the daily cost of a loan to less than a cheap cup of coffee at a gas station. His plan allows for a plethora of options for both consumers and businesses."

The original version of the legislation is "extreme, poorly written and not workable," he said.

Sen. Huffman's plan is not exactly what the industry would have wanted, but would allow businesses to stay in place, he said.

## Prosecutors Praise Beefed Up Parole Monitoring Bill

A bill to revise parole monitoring procedures has the potential to save lives, members of a Senate panel were told Wednesday.

The legislation (SB 202a) is named after Reagan Tokes, who was murdered by Brian Golsby shortly after his release from prison.

Lou Tobin, executive director of the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, said the legislation "will fill the gaps in the way the state manages offenders who are released from prison."

Among the bill's provisions, it would create reentry programs to ensure that those released from prison are not homeless and require restrictions to be placed on those who are on post-release control and fitted with GPS monitoring devices.

It would also require the state to create a database of GPS data that would be available to law enforcement officials when investigating crimes. Another portion of the legislation would focus on ensuring parole officer caseloads are not too large.

"Brian Golsby was released into homelessness and with a GPS monitor that did not establish zones within which he was allowed to move," Mr. Tobin told members of the Senate Government Oversight & Reform Committee. "It was subsequently discovered he committed at least six violent robberies, prior to his encounter with Reagan, all while being 'monitored.' The state must do more to address the circumstances that led to this."

William Parker of the American Court & Drug Testing Services said GPS monitors are essentially useless without guidelines and restrictions.

"GPS technology can do much, much more than simply provide the current location of someone wearing the ankle bracelet. Using easily programmable curfews, inclusion and exclusion zones and daily schedules, the technology can alert us immediately if the defendant is not where they are supposed to be when they are supposed to be there," he said.

"The technology can alert us immediately if the defendant moves into a neighborhood where his or her presence represents a threat to a person or community. It can notify us immediately if the defendant removes the bracelet or fails to charge the bracelet. But, the effective use of this technology requires more than satellites, cellular signals and computer applications."

Phyllis Carlson-Riehm of the ACTION OHIO Coalition For Battered Women also provided written testimony in support of the measure.

"We all know that Ohio's prisons are full to overflowing and the costs are enormous," she wrote. "We all know that prison reforms are long overdue to reduce the number of non-violent inmates and move them into meaningful community corrections programs and rehabilitated lives.

"But at the same time we must not fail to strengthen Ohio laws to hold violent repeat felons responsible for the multiple crimes that they commit and stop the needless human tragedies that are happening to many Ohio families."

Companion legislation (HB 365) - that also deals with indeterminate sentencing - cleared the House earlier this month. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 20, 2018)

# Senate Releases Session Calendar

The Senate could hold full sessions as many as 14 days during the second half of the year, according to a schedule released by Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) on Wednesday.

The calendar sets if-needed sessions for July 10 and August 22. Three potential session dates are set for September.

Nine possible dates are scheduled for November and December, which would represent the chamber's post-election session.

The House has yet to release its schedule for July through December.

All session dates are available in Gongwer's full legislative schedule, where the meetings can be synced with Outlook calendars.

# Governor's Appointments

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Council: Kimberly S. Monachino of Twinsburg for a term beginning June 27, 2018, and ending June 1, 2019 and Margie Hegg of Upper Arlington for a term beginning June 27, 2018, and ending June 1, 2020.

# Supplemental Agency Calendar Thursday, June 28

Business Gateway Steering Committee, 30 East Broad Street, Room 2925, Columbus, 1 p.m.

# Supplemental Event Planner

Friday, August 3

Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) fundraiser, FOP Hall, 2249 Payne Ave., Cleveland, 5 p.m., (\$200 (table); \$20 (friend) to Friends of Sandra Williams)

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# House Activity for Wednesday, June 27, 2018 PASSED

#### SB 66

CRIMINAL LAWS (Eklund, J., Tavares, C.) To modify criminal sentencing and corrections law by including the promotion of effective rehabilitation as a purpose of felony sentencing, removing the one-year minimum for presumptive fourth or fifth degree felony community control sanctions, modifying sanctions for a violation of a community control condition, modifying the manner of calculating confinement credits, modifying eligibility criteria and procedures for granting pre-trial diversion and intervention in lieu of conviction, making offenders convicted of certain multiple fourth or fifth degree felonies eligible for conviction record sealing, revising procedures for the Adult Parole Authority to grant a final release or terminate post-release control, and modifying the criteria for considering a prison term sanction for a post-release control violation; to extend the State Highway Patrol's authority to enforce criminal laws to also apply to the Northeast Ohio Correctional Center; to modify the penalty for an employer's failure to remit state income taxes withheld from an employee; and to authorize the conveyance of stateowned real estate.

84-2 (Edwards, Schaffer) (Amended)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

#### SB 81

FIREARMS (<u>Terhar, L.</u>) To waive the concealed carry license fee for active members of the armed forces and retired and honorably discharged veterans, to accept military experience with firearms as proof of competency with firearms regardless of when the applicant for a license acquired the experience, to permit a licensee to renew a concealed handgun license at any time before the expiration of the license, and to require the Attorney General to monitor the number of license fees waived and cap the total amount allowed to be waived at \$1.5 million.

76-6

**Gongwer Coverage** 

#### SB 127

**WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES** (<u>LaRose</u>, <u>F</u>.) To require motor vehicle operators to take certain actions upon approaching a stationary waste collection vehicle collecting refuse on a roadside.

84-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SCHOOL REGULATIONS (<u>Huffman, M.</u>) To enact the "Ohio Public School Deregulation Act" regarding the administration of preschool and primary and secondary education programs, to add the territory of Summit County to the Stark State College District, and to prescribe procedures for appointing the board of trustees of the combined technical college district.

60-32 (Amended)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

CYBERSECURITY (<u>Hackett, B., Bacon, K.</u>) To provide a legal safe harbor to covered entities that implement a specified cybersecurity program, to allow transactions recorded by blockchain technology under the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, and to alter the definition of "key employee" under the Casino Gaming Law.

62-21 (Earlier REPORTED-AMENDED)

Gongwer Coverage

SB 221 AGENCY RULEMAKING (<u>Uecker, J.</u>) To reform agency rule-making and legislative review thereof.

73-19 (Earlier REPORTED-AMENDED)

Gongwer Coverage

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS (<u>Dolan, M.</u>) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments to clarify that a municipal corporation eligible to designate a tourism development district may designate more than one district, to specify that the American Law Institute's approved "Restatement of the Law, Liability Insurance" does not constitute the public policy of Ohio, to designate a portion of U.S. Route 33 in Meigs County as the "Steve Story Memorial Highway," to designate a portion of Interstate Route 270 in Franklin County as the "Officers Anthony Morrelli and Eric Joering Memorial Highway," and to designate the portion of U.S. Route

24 in Henry County as the "Henry County Veterans Highway."

0-88

**Gongwer Coverage** 

SB 299 WATER IMPROVEMENTS (Gardner, R., O'Brien, S.) To credit additional amounts of the Local Government Fund to fund public safety services in areas that experienced a 30% or more decrease in the taxable value of certain power plants between 2016 and 2017, to phase out the payments

over ten years, to increase the appropriation to the Local Government Fund; to support broadband development; to establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project; and to make appropriations, including appropriations for the protection and preservation of Lake Erie and the National Guard Scholarship Program. 88-0 (Amended)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 7

MEDICAL PROVIDER IMMUNITY (Cupp, R.) To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers and emergency medical technicians who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster and through its duration; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to permit access to peer review committee documents during authorized inspections by the Director of Health while preserving their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim." 71-16

Gongwer Coverage

HB 36

MARRIAGE CEREMONIES (<u>Vitale, N.</u>) To provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister's or religious society's sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal-liability for such a denial, and to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial.

59-29 (Amended)

Gongwer Coverage

HB 92 🖼

**PUBLIC INDECENCY** (Schaffer, T.) To require an offender who knowingly commits the offense of public indecency under certain circumstances involving exposure of private parts likely to be viewed by minors and for the

purpose of sexual arousal or gratification to register as a Tier I sex offender/child-victim offender if the judge orders registration. 80-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

KINSHIP CAREGIVERS (Boyd, J., Rezabek, J.) To require a region-based kinship care navigator program, and to make an appropriation. 82-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 156

**VISION CARE INSURANCE** (<u>Schuring, K.</u>) Regarding limitations imposed by health insurers on vision care services.

75-2 (Hambley & Romanchuk)

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 211

**HOME INSPECTORS** (<u>Hughes, J.</u>) To require the licensure of home inspectors, to create the Ohio Home Inspector Board to regulate the licensure and performance of home inspectors, and to require realtors who recommend home inspectors to provide a list of home inspectors 74-6

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 240 🗷

MONTH DESIGNATION (<u>Barnes, J.</u>) To enact the "Respect Your Date Act" to designate the month of April as "Respect Your Date Month" and to require each state institution of higher education to adopt a policy regarding dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and rape on campus and to declare an emergency.

Bill: 77-0; Emergency: 75-6

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 349 🜌

**POLICE ANIMALS** (<u>LaTourette, S.</u>) To increase the penalty for assaulting a police dog or horse and to include search and rescue dogs and horses in the prohibition against assaulting or harassing a police animal.

69-11

Gongwer Coverage

HB 355

**SEXTING** (<u>Hill, B., Rezabek, J.</u>) To generally prohibit sexting by a person under 19 years of age.

# Gongwer Coverage

HB 386 CREDIT FREEZES (Henne, M., Kelly, B.) To modify the fees that a credit

reporting agency can charge in relation to a credit report freeze.

82-2

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 425

BODY CAMERAS (Antani, N., Craig, H.) To provide that specified portions of peace officers' body-worn camera recordings and the infrastructure record of a public school are not public records for purposes of the Public Records Law.

88-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 428

STUDENT EXPRESSION (Ginter, T., LaTourette, S.) Regarding student religious expression and to entitle the act the "Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2018."

62-20

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 469 🝱

TAX CREDIT (Schuring, K., Patton, T.) To authorize a nonrefundable insurance company tax credit for contributions of capital to transformational mixed use development projects.

78-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 479

DRUG PRICE INFORMATION (Lipps, S., West, T.) Regarding pharmacy benefit managers, pharmacists, and the disclosure to patients of drug price information.

75-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 480 🜌

MULTI-PARCEL AUCTIONS (Hill, B.) To establish requirements governing multi-parcel auctions.

72-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 497 PRIVATE IMAGES (Rogers, J., Manning, N.) To prohibit the

nonconsensual dissemination of private sexual images, to require that certain property involved in the offense be criminally forfeited, and to create certain legal rights and protections of a victim of the offense.

81-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 500 TOWNSHIP LAWS (Carfagna, R.) To make various changes to township

law.

81-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 502 

YOUTH SUICIDE (Anielski, M.) With regard to educator inservice training

on youth suicide awareness and prevention in public schools.

82-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

MARRIAGE AGE (Lanese, L., Rogers, J.) To make changes to the laws

governing the ages at which persons may marry.

78-0

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 540 TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Gavarone, T., Manning, N.) With regard to

teacher evaluations.

84-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 543 COUNTY PROSECUTORS (Peraies, R., Hambiey, S.) To allow a county

prosecuting attorney to enter into a contract with a regional airport authority, port authority, or regional planning commission to be its legal adviser.

79-0

Gongwer Coverage

HB 572 RETIREMENT CREDIT (Scherer, G., Howse, S.) Regarding Public

Employees Retirement System service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of developmental disabilities.

#### Gongwer Coverage

HB 595

PROBATE LAW (Cupp, R., Rezabek, J.) Relative to procedures for a testator to file a declaratory judgment action to declare the validity of a will prior to death and the settlor of a trust to file such an action to declare its validity, exceptions to antilapse provisions in class gifts in wills and trusts, incorporation of a written trust into a will, trusts for a minor, arbitration of trust disputes, the creation of county and multicounty guardianship services boards, the coroner's disposition of person dying of suspicious or unusual death, an application for the release of medical records and medical billing records, and adding involuntary manslaughter not resulting from a felony vehicular homicide offense to the list of offenses excluding an individual from inheriting from a decedent.

78-0

Gosgwer Coverage

# HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 18 🖼

SPECIAL ELECTIONS (<u>Pelanda, D., Retherford, W.</u>) to eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances; to authorize local elected officers that have levied a hotel lodging excise tax, or a designee of such officers, to simultaneously hold the position of officer or member of the board of trustees of a convention and visitors' bureau without constituting incompatible offices; and to require that, upon request, county auditors, municipal fiscal officers, and their employees must share lodging tax return information with the directors of convention and visitors' bureaus operating in their counties.

67-22

Gongwer Coverage

HB 87

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** (<u>Roegner</u>, <u>K.</u>) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding for recovery issued pursuant to an audit of the enrollment records of a community school, to clarify the time period within which a school district emergency levy or substitute levy may be renewed or replaced, to clarify the responsibilities of a school district treasurer regarding the signing or executing of certain documents, to require the State Board of Education to adopt standards for learning management software for internetand computer-based community schools, regarding qualification for state payments by internet- or computer-based community schools, regarding joint

health and medical insurance programs by political subdivisions and county boards of developmental disabilities, regarding submission of five-year financial forecasts by public schools, and regarding the moratorium on certain provisions affecting community schools and school districts whose enrollments were affected due to enrolling students of a suspended e-school. 70-22

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 263

**OUTDOOR DINING AREAS** (<u>Lanese, L.</u>) To generally allow an owner, keeper, or harborer of a dog to take the dog in an outdoor dining area of a retail food establishment or food service operation.

79-10

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 312 2

POLITICAL SUBDIVISION SPENDING (Schuring, K., Greenspan, D.) To regulate the use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions, to modify the duties and powers of the Auditor of State, to specify that electronic submission of a public record request entitles the requestor to damages if the public office fails to comply with the Public Records Act, to make changes to the law governing financial planning and supervision commissions, and to authorize a property tax abatement for certain property subject to a submerged land lease and held by a municipal corporation.

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 318 🗟

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (<u>Patterson, J., LaTourette, S.</u>) To define the necessary qualifications and responsibilities of school resource officers, to require the Facilities Construction Commission to study and report on school building security upgrades and to make an appropriation. 69-20

Gongwer Coverage

HB 336 🍱

**LICENSE FEES** (<u>Barnes</u>, <u>J.</u>, <u>Greenspan</u>, <u>D.</u>) To prohibit the imposition of driver's license and temporary instruction permit reinstatement fees in specified circumstances and to name this act the Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Initiative.

84-6

**Gongwer Coverage** 

HB 347 ■ ROAD NAMING (Kelly, B., Dever, J.) To designate multiple memorial

highways. 91-0

Gongwer Coverage

# CONFERENCE REPORT ADOPTED

SB 1 DRUG OFFENSES (LaRose, F.) To increase penalties for drug trafficking

violations, drug possession violations, and aggravated funding of drug trafficking when the drug involved in the offense is a fentanyl-related compound, except for drug possession violations when the fentanyl-related compound is combined with marihuana or a Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substance and the offender did not know of the fentanyl content; to revise the manner of determining sentence for certain violations of the offense of permitting drug abuse; and to add lisdexamfetamine to the list of schedule II controlled substances.

59-10

**Gongwer Coverage** 

# HOUSE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS

Community & Family Advancement Committee: Remove Rep. Brinkman, appoint Rep. Greenspan

# COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Agriculture & Rural Development

PET FOOD (<u>Lanese</u>, <u>L.</u>) To prohibit pet food from containing remains from an animal that was euthanized by the use of any drug injected intravenously or through another nonvascular route or remains from any dog or cat.

(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Rep. Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) said her measure "will provide pet owners some assurance that their pet food does not contain the remains of other cats and dogs and that it does not contain pentobarbital, the drug used to euthanize cats and dogs."

The sponsor referred to news stories in recent years about tainted pet food and noted the FDA had recalled products after pentobarbital, which is used be veterinarians to euthanize cats, dogs and horses, was found in the samples from an Ohio-based pet food company. Rep. Lanese said current state law doesn't sufficiently cover the products that rendering plants sell to pet food manufacturers. "Under current Ohio law, a commercial feed is adulterated if it bears or contains any poisonous or deleterious substance that may render it injurious to animal or human health, except that when the substance is not an added

substance. Since the drug is not added during processing, the feed may not be considered an added substance and therefore permissible," she said.

"Most pet owners do not want to feed their family dog or cat the remains of other dogs and cats. Even if a consumer actively tries to make an informed decision by reading the label, terms like animal meal and meat meal make it hard to decipher what exactly is in our pet's food," the sponsor said. "Guardrails to ensure that our pets are not eating other pets and ingesting euthanasia drugs is one small token we can offer consumers, especially since pet food companies are denying they are part of the pet food they sell."

Responding to a question from <u>Rep. Michael Sheehy</u> (D-Oregon), the sponsor said there are federal regulations regarding pet food content but the lack of any legal actions underscore the need for Ohio to take action and tighten its oversight.

Several members had questions about testing for the drug, and Rep. Lanese told <u>Rep.</u> <u>Darrell Kick</u> (R-Loudonville) that imposing such costs on rendering plants would likely lead to extensive pushback.

She told Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) she was unsure how many rendering plants existed in the state. "There's very little oversight of this industry," she said, adding the bill would only apply to Ohio plants.

<u>Rep. Keith Faber</u> (R-Celina) said he applauded the concept of the bill but questioned whether the oversight should be left to the free market, such as pet food makers putting testing labels on their products.

HB 631

**AMUSEMENT RIDES** (<u>Hughes, J.</u>, <u>Patterson, J.</u>) To revise the laws governing amusement ride operation and safety, to designate this act as "Tyler's Law," and to declare an emergency. (**CONTINUED** (See separate story); 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Insurance

HB 621

**DEATH BENEFITS** (<u>Hughes, J.</u>) To revise the payments that surviving family members receive from the Ohio Public Safety Officers Death Benefit Fund and to permit surviving spouses and children to participate in the health, dental, and vision benefits offered to state employees as if the survivors were employees of this state. (**CONTINUED** (**No testimony**); 3rd Hearing-Opponent)

Chair Rep. Tom Brinkman (R-Cincinnati) said the committee received a <u>fiscal note</u> detailing the bill's estimated costs. He said an amendment is being drafted in regard to a similar bill pending in the Senate.

SB 227

**HEALTH PLAN CLAIMS** (<u>Huffman, M.</u>) To require health plan issuers to release certain claim information to group plan policyholders. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)

<u>Sen. Matt Huffman</u> (R-Lima) said the bill would give employers more information about claims made under their health insurance coverage while protecting information that details which individuals and dependents are receiving care.

That information will give small employers more data they can use to shop for coverage from insurers, he said. Without that information, small businesses are often left to renew coverage and accept rate increases proposed by insurers.

Claims information that would be shared with employers wouldn't include any personal information, and he said the release of that redacted data isn't prohibited by federal law. The result would spur more competition in the insurance market, potentially leading to lower prices, he said.

Rep. Wes Retherford (R-Hamilton) asked if there would be any cases where the release of information could be denied.

Mr. Huffman said the bill directs the release of non-identifiable claims information about all people covered under a company's policy.

Rep. George Lang (R-West Chester) said his initial reaction to the proposal is that if an employer is paying an insurance bill, it should have access to claims information. Responding to Rep. Michael Henne (R-Clayton), Sen. Huffman said the bill is targeted to employers with between 50 and 100 employees, and indicated that leaders of smaller companies might already be aware of health conditions that their employees have.

Rep. Glenn Holmes (R-McDonald) questioned whether the sponsor would be willing to consider redacting pharmaceutical information, indicating that having knowledge-of drug use could create ethical issues for those who make decisions about employee coverage.

Government Accountability & Oversight

SB 220

CYBERSECURITY (<u>Hackett, B., Bacon, K.</u>) To provide a legal safe harbor to covered entities that implement a specified cybersecurity program. (REPORTED-AMENDED (No testimony); 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

An amendment offered by <u>Rep. Kathleen Clyde</u> (D-Kent) to replace the phrase "reasonable compliance" with "actual compliance" was tabled in an 8-2 vote, with <u>Rep. Bernadine Kent</u> (D-Columbus) joining all the Republicans present in the vote, as she would do throughout the committee meeting after recently being exiled from the House Democratic Caucus. In explaining her motion to table, <u>Rep. Dorothy Pelanda</u> (D-Marysville) said actual compliance could be a difficult bar for small businesses to clear.

"Reasonable compliance was arrived at after several interested party meetings and discussions with those people," she said.

Another failed amendment proposed by Rep. Clyde would have allowed a person whose private information is compromised to request the attorney general's office bring legal action. If it does not, the person would be able to bring legal action on behalf of the state and split the recovery.

An amendment offered by <u>Rep. Bill Seitz</u> (R-Cincinnati) that would allow owners of casinos with less than a 5% stake to avoid licensing requirements was added to the bill. He said the current law that requires licensing for anyone owning as little as 1% is unworkable for a publicly traded company.

Rep. Clyde questioned how the amendment does not run afoul of the single-subject rule. Rep. Seitz responded the subject matter of the bill is commerce.

"I can't see anybody filing a lawsuit over this because it is simply common sense," he said.

An amendment offered by chairman Rep. Lou Blessing (R-Cincinnati) pertaining to blockchain technology e-signatures was also attached to the measure.

AGENCY RULEMAKING (<u>Uecker</u>, J.) To reform agency rule-making and legislative review thereof. (REPORTED-AMENDED (No testimony); 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

A clarifying amendment offered by Rep. Blessing to make the language in the measure more consistent with the rest of the section was accepted without objection.

Two Democratic amendments - both offered by <u>Rep. Brigid Kelly</u> (D-Cincinnati) - were tabled.

The first would have removed language allowing a business to challenge an agency rule based on adverse impact. Rep. Kelly called the language "overly broad."

"I think the main thrust is really to just avoid harming business," Rep. Blessing said.

The other would have removed language allowing a business to contest a rule outside of the regular review period.

NOTARY PUBLIC (Huffman, M., Wilson, S.) To enact the Notary Public Modernization Act. (CONTINUED (No testimony); 3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the <u>committee's website</u> under June 26. Health

OPIOID MEDICATIONS (Edwards, J.) Regarding addiction treatment and opioid prescribing by physicians and dentists. (REPORTED; 3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

The measure was reported unanimously.

<u>Rep. Emilia Sykes</u> (D-Akron) said a constituent with chronic pain raised concerns about the limitations in the initial draft of the proposal and said it could hinder patients' ability to get treatment.

Sponsor <u>Rep. Jay Edwards</u> (R-Nelsonville) said those provisions have been removed from the bill, which now focuses on ensuring patients have access to medication-assisted treatment if a prescriber is unavailable. "I got a lot of the same calls," he said.

PRESCRIBING AUTHORITY (Seitz, B., Gavarone, T.) To authorize certain psychologists to prescribe psychotropic and other drugs for the treatment of drug addiction and mental illness. (CONTINUED (No testimony); 6th Hearing-Possible substitute & amendments)

TELEMEDICINE (<u>Patton, T.</u>) To prohibit health benefit plans from treating telemedicine services differently from in-person health care services solely because they are provided as telemedicine services. (CONTINUED; 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Jimelle Rumberg, executive director of the Ohio Foot and Ankle Medical Association, said the measure would enhance physicians' efforts to provide quality, cost-effective care by allowing the care delivery system to evolve through telemedicine.

"As employers and insurers continue to drive consumers to high-deductible insurance plans that require more patient out-of-pocket requirements, telemedicine and its ability to provide quality care for lower prices could help consumers better manage their out-of-pocket requirements that are mandated by these high-deductible plans," she said.

She disputed claims that the legislation would mandate the use of telemedicine by insurers or health plans, saying it only creates a "payment parity" between in-person and telemedicine services.

"HB546 simply says that payment discrimination to a provider cannot take place solely based on the fact that the service is provided via telemedicine," she wrote. "Insurers and health plans still would have utilization management tools they may use to regulate telemedicine services and HB546 does not infringe on those capabilities."

Miranda Motter, president and CEO of the Ohio Association of Health Plans, said in written testimony that the proposal constitutes a statutory mandate for coverage of telehealth, which could stifle innovation and limit the technology's ability to be a tool to drive down costs. "Telehealth should not be used to increase health care costs for consumers, employers and the state as the payer for Medicaid and the State Employees Health Plan," she wrote. "As a result, Ohio's health care consumers should not have to pay for 'bricks and mortar' infrastructure, facility fees and other types of fees hospitals and doctors charge for in-person services."

#### HB 559

CHILD IMMUNIZATIONS (Gonzales, A., Landis, A.) To make changes to the law governing immunization of children enrolled in school, preschool programs, and day-care programs. (CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE; 4th Hearing-Possible substitute & amendments)

The panel accepted a substitute version that removes the requirement that the Department of Health publish immunization rates by school building and makes other changes, said <u>Rep. Theresa Gavarone</u> (R-Bowling Green). (<u>Comp Doc</u>)

The school building change stemmed from concerns that it could lead to shaming and might allow specific students to be identified, she said.

The new version retains provisions about school-level reporting to ODH and clarifies that information from private and parochial schools is not to be posted on the department's website, she said.

Rep. Gavarone said the new version expands the eligible documents to include a copy of the child's immunization record and allows the provider to submit a form for parents seeking a non-medical exemption. It also delays implementation until the 2021 school year.

The committee received written testimony from Donna Kazee, president of Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom, who urged committee members to pay more attention to concerns from opponents.

Ms. Kazee raised concerns about the tracking of vaccination and exemption status and the public posting of data, and about the insertion of a third party into the exemption process against the parent's choosing.

"These and other parents should not be forced to receive education and information when they are declining for religious/conscience reasons, which have nothing to do with medical information," she said.

She also suggested more details of the required form be standardized, raising concerns that it could include statements such as that they are placing their child and others in danger by not vaccinating.

"We encourage and are happy to assist with further discussion about both standardized form contents and responsibility and determination of standardized risk and benefit information," she said.

#### HB 677

**MENTAL HEALTH** (<u>Barnes</u>, <u>J.</u>) To require the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services to operate a demonstration program under which a mental health trauma center is established as part of a county hospital located in Cuyahoga County. (**CONTINUED**; 1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

Sponsor Rep. John Barnes (D-Cleveland) said it would require a mental health trauma center to be established through a demonstration program at a county hospital in Cuyahoga County. "In the state of Ohio, we have a crisis of mental health issues, and largely our government has been reactive to the problem," he said.

The proposal is intended to get out in front of the issue by improving access to mental health services, particularly short-term services, he said.

The sponsor said he hoped to work out the details of the proposal over the summer.

#### HB 72

STEP THERAPY (<u>Johnson, T., Antonio, N.</u>) To adopt requirements related to step therapy protocols implemented by health plan issuers and the Department of Medicaid. (**CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE**; 6th Hearing-Possible substitute)

The committee accepted a substitute version that <u>Rep. Terry Johnson</u> (R-McDermott) said made a variety of changes. (<u>Fiscal Note</u>)

The new version replaces the terms "based on medical necessity" and "medically appropriate" with "consistent with medical and scientific evidence," he said. It also reduces the exemptions to four and modifies them. It now exempts a patient when the medication is contra-indicated or will likely cause an adverse reaction or physical or mental harm, as opposed to previously just if it is contra-indicated, he said.

The substitute version also makes changes to the appeals process, he said. Civil Justice

#### HB 147

HUMANE SOCIETIES (<u>Hambley</u>, S.) To make changes to humane society law and to make humane society agents subject to bribery law. (**REPORTED**; 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Corey Roscoe, Ohio state director for the Humane Society, submitted interested party testimony in which she said concerns remain that the regulations proposed "can create overdue burdens and unintentionally make it harder for humane societies to perform their volunteer law enforcement duties."

"One prominent concern of the bill is to require non-prosecution requirements entered in by humane society-appointed prosecutors be approved by a judge but not required for all prosecutors and cases prosecuted under 959," Ms. Roscoe wrote. "The law should be

From: Schafer, Abby

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 7, 2017 10:55 AM

To: Zielinski, Justin Subject: MR-Draft

#### **Meeting Requests**

Samantha Fallucco from Ohio Department of Education emailed on 5/22 to request JKS meet with ODE Superintendent Paolo DeMaria with JKS to discuss graduation requirements. Samantha can be reached at 614-466-3175.

Catherine Scheller from Ohio Jewish Communities emailed on 6/5 to request JKS meet with Howie Beigelman, Executive Director of Ohio Jewish Communities, and Sam Hoenig, Executive Director of the Negev Foundation to discuss \_\_\_\_\_. Catherine can be reached at 614-463-1835.

Shawn Busken from the Auditor's office called on 5/25 to request JKS meet with him to discuss credit card reform legislation. Shawn can be reached at 613-638-7235.

Gary Daniels, Chief Lobbyist at ACLU of Ohio emailed on 5/5 to request JKS meet with him to discuss HB 64 (Auto Erase). Gary has also contacted Rep. Reece for a meeting. Gary has been given JKS's cell phone number. Gary can be reached at 614-586-1959.

John VanDoorn from the Ohio Association for Justice emailed on 5/11 to request JKS meet with him to discuss HB 172 (Modify law governing access to patient medical records). John can be reached at 614-341-6800. John has been given JKS's cell phone number.

Dan Dodd, Executive Director from Ohio Association of Independent Schools emailed on 6/1 to request JKS meet with him to discuss some budget amendments. Dan can be reached at 740-973-5930. Dan was told to schedule with the Speaker's office.

Randy Westin from OAPSE/AFSCME emailed on 4/19 to request JKS meet with him to discuss SERS COLA issue. Randy can be reached at 614-890-4770.

Michelle Cotterman, RN, Legislative Action Chair for Ohio Advocates for Medical Freedom emailed on 5/9 to request JKS or staff meet with herself to discuss some discriminatory employment practices in the state of Ohio and HB 193 (Prohibit penalizing employee for not getting flu vaccination). Michelle can be reached at 614-327-2386.

Abby Schafer
Senior Legislative Aide
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From: Zielinski, Justin

Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2017 12:15 PM

To: Schafer, Abby Subject: RE: MR-Draft

Oh yeah baby now we're talkn

From: Schafer, Abby

Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2017 10:55 AM

To: Zielinski, Justin < Justin. Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov>

Subject: MR-Draft

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From: report@hannah.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 10:49 PM

To: DL Hannah

Subject: Hannah News Stories for Wednesday, June 27, 2018

### Wednesday, June 27, 2018

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